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THE TIMES

No 62,654 THURSDAY JANUARY 1 1987 25p

Aids prompts young to alter sexual habits

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Millions of young adults in Britain are changing their sexual behaviour to protect themselves from Aids, according to an opinion poll commissioned by *The Times*.

The findings come as a new year boost to the Government, which has so far spent more than £30 million combating the disease.

The poll shows that substantial numbers of married couples are less likely to have affairs and many single people are more likely to use condoms as a barrier against Aids infection – two of the main themes of the Government's publicity campaign.

Such behavioural changes are considered vital by ministers if an epidemic is to be prevented.

Britain has had 600 cases of Aids, of whom about half have died. Between 30,000 and 100,000 others are believed to be carriers of the virus.

The poll, conducted by Market and Opinion Research International (MORI) last weekend, indicates growing public concern about the disease, but suggests that Aids myths are still held by many people.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, welcomed most of the findings of the poll yesterday.

"Overall, the results are very encouraging. Some of the most important messages of the publicity campaign are getting through," he said.

"There are clear signs that attitudes are changing and that people are examining their behaviour very carefully and beginning to act differently."

The poll shows that half the adult population believe that the Aids problem would not have arisen but for "permissive" society.

Fifty eight per cent of the 1,093 adults interviewed said Britain would only avoid a major Aids epidemic if traditional family values were upheld.

Over half of those questioned believe the Government is doing too little to inform the public about the dangers of Aids and two thirds said the Government was not doing enough to support research and development to find a cure.

Mr Fowler said: "Clearly, there is a view that too little is being done. But in the next few weeks there will be a national leaflet drop to every household, backed with television advertisements.

"These are still early days. The poll shows that over half the population feel they know just a little or hardly anything at all about Aids. There is still a long way to go."

According to the poll, 26 per cent of single men and women aged 18 to 29 are now more likely to use a condom to prevent Aids infection. The figure represents about three million people.

Extra-marital sex is now a less likely prospect because of Aids fears for 42 per cent of the married people interviewed, representing about 12.6 million people.

Large majorities now understand how the disease is, and is not, transmitted – 93 per cent know that Aids can be spread homosexually, and 82 per cent that it can also be passed heterosexually.

Only 2 per cent believe the disease can be caught by being in the same room as an Aids sufferer, and only 5 per cent think it can be picked-up from a toilet seat or from public swimming baths.

However, the poll finds:

- 31 per cent of parents are less likely to send their child to a school where there is a pupil with Aids;
- 39 per cent are less likely to give mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to a stranger and
- 22 per cent are less likely to assist a stranger who has been cut and injured in an accident.

Mr Fowler said: "We will try to dispel this type of misinformation as the education campaign progresses, and use television and the leaflet drop to do so. We have to tell people what is safe for them to do, as well as what is unsafe."

Only 42 per cent of all adults, and 32 per cent of young adults, felt that the Government information campaign should make moral judgements about the rights and wrongs of certain types of sexual behaviour.

Poll details 5

Tomorrow

Derek and David

How the unique partnership formed by the two Bishops of Liverpool has helped to prevent sectarian violence in a troubled city

Portfolio —Gold—

- **The £4,000 prize in yesterday's Times Portfolio Gold competition was shared by six readers. Details, page 3.**
- **Portfolio list, page 23; how to play, information service, page 18.**

Top names

For the second successive year, James and Charlotte were the most popular first names among births announced in *The Times* in 1986. But Sarah, top in 1984 and third in 1985, fell from the top ten **Letters, page 15**

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Gap widens

Economists are predicting a record US trade deficit this year of about $170 billion (£115.65 billion). The November deficit was $19.22 billion, up $7.16 billion **Page 19**

On the wing

The great air sale – British Airways, BAA and Rolls-Royce – which is part of the Government's privatization programme this year, could raise about £3 billion **Page 19**

Forgotten man

The rowing world has greeted with bewilderment the omission of Andy Holmes in the New Year Honours while his partner Steve Redgrave received an MBE **Page 30**

Crowds up

Halfway through the season after the tragedies of Brussels and Bradford, football crowds are on the increase in three of the four divisions **Page 30**

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The Queen, in a white coat with hood, with the Duchess of York, sporting a riding hat, out in the morning sunshine yesterday in the fields near Sandringham. It was the Queen's first ride during her six-week holiday.

Election campaign opened by Botha

By Our Foreign Staff

The start of an election campaign in South Africa was signalled by **President Botha** when he delivered his new year message yesterday.

The country's 4.8 million white voters will probably go to the polls in April. Mr Botha said that he would announce the exact date when Parliament meets at the end of this month.

Leaders' messages 6
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President Reagan delivered his new year message to the Soviet Union last night even though Mr Gorbachov had spurned a proposal for both leaders to swap televised greetings as they had done last year.

Mr Reagan, overcoming the rejection by broadcasting to the Soviet Union by the US radio station Voice of America, emphasized that respect for individual rights was essential for progress on arms control.

Mr Gorbachov used the roundabout route of publishing his answers to questions from an American journalist to deliver his new year message. He called for a dynamic upgrading of the Geneva talks on nuclear disarmament and maintained that the onus was on the US Government to respond to the Soviet Union's initiatives.

In New York, the United Nations Secretary General, Señor Pérez de Cuéllar, inaugurated 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

British minister says EEC will hit back in trade war

By Richard Evans and Andrew McEwen

Mr Alan Clark, Britain's Trade Minister, yesterday condemned the United States for planning to impose swingeing duties on European imports and warned that the EEC would retaliate unless President Reagan backed off.

"I deplore it. This is not the first time they have deployed muscle and taken unilateral action in trade disputes," he said.

The reaction from Paris to the threat by Mr Clayton Yeutter, the US Trade Representative, to impose tariffs blocking EEC food and drink exports worth $400 million (£270 million) was equally outspoken.

M Michel Noir, the Foreign Trade Minister, said the US had chosen "the Rambo method".

The Prime Minister, M Jacques Chirac, said the threat carried "a grave threat of confrontation".

Britain is to take a leading role in efforts to head off a full-scale trade war. Whitehall's close relationship with Washington is seen by European diplomats as offering the best hope of success.

Tough talk from both sides contrasts with a recognition that neither has anything to gain.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will use an already-arranged meeting with Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, to raise the subject.

Their paths will cross in Bermuda on January 7, three weeks before Mr Yeutter's final deadline expires.

Sir Geoffrey still believes a damaging trade war can be averted.

Mr Clark also plans talks with US officials in London. The threatened US action is in retaliation for the loss of American exports of sorghum and maize caused by the accession of Spain and Portugal to the EEC. Both were obliged to raise their tariffs to the EEC level, and American claims for compensation were rejected by the European Commission.

The dispute came to a head last summer but was postponed by an eleventh hour agreement allowing the US to continue exporting at 1985 levels pending an agreement by December 31. The US now claims that the EEC has failed to honour the interim agreement.

Crisis for West 6
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Gin makers' sorrow 19

Throughout the six-month British presidency Whitehall took the view that Europe and America were engaged in ritual shadow boxing

Britain's direct involvement was limited by the fact that EEC relations with Washington are a European Commission responsibility.

The Commission's failure to negotiate a settlement has vastly increased the urgency of British efforts.

Mr Clark said that while France would suffer most from the threatened 200 per cent import duties both Italy and the UK would be hit too.

Climbers missing after avalanche

Rescue teams were searching for two missing climbers near Glencoe in the Scottish Highlands last night.

Glencoe Mountain Rescue team was called out at teatime to nearby Glen Etivie where one climber was thought to have been caught in an avalanche. They were joined by a team from RAF Leuchars, who scoured the area in a Wessex helicopter while dogs searched on the ground.

While they were searching they were told of a separate incident nearby in which a person is thought to have been injured.

Last year was one of the worst for the past two decades for death and injury among among walkers and climbers in the Glencoe area. There were seven deaths and many people were seriously injured.

A ski-instructor suffered broken legs on Monday when a minor avalanche swept him several hundred feet down a mountainside in the Cairngorms.

Channel hunt

Dieppe (Reuter) – A sea and air search was launched yesterday for the French trawler Bonne Sainte Rita, missing off Normandy with seven people on board.

Battle of hawks over Suez

By Michael Evans
Whitehall Correspondent

New revelations about the Suez crisis of 1956, including a personal admission by the then Prime Minister, Sir Anthony Eden, that the whole Cabinet should have resigned, are made public today with the release of government documents under the 30-year rule.

A mass of secret and top secret Cabinet minutes and papers, Foreign Office records and intriguing private letters between members of the Cabinet has been made available by the Public Records Office.

They paint a dramatic picture of a Cabinet split over the crucial issue of the use of force in Egypt in the months leading up to the doomed Anglo-French military operation to regain control of the Suez Canal.

The Cabinet hawks who were convinced in their own minds that force was inevitable, such as Eden, Harold Macmillan, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Alec Douglas-Home (now Lord Home of the Hirsel), then Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, are set against the doubters such as Sir Walter Monckton, Secretary of State for Defence, and Richard Butler, the Lord Privy Seal.

But the confession by Eden that the whole Cabinet should have resigned at the end of November 1956, when the Americans continued to refuse to offer any support, is not made until two years later in May 1958, during a conversation with the former Foreign Secretary, Selwyn Lloyd.

The resulting election might well have led to a Labour Government. Eden himself had resigned on the grounds of ill health on January 9 1957.

The released papers also give the first official hint that a covert operation was being planned at the same time to overthrow the Syrian government which was pro-Egypt.

The plan was given the code name Operation Straggle.

But while the Suez papers are released, although there are some still withheld, the record of Cabinet discussion of the notorious affair of the frogman Commander "Buster" Crabb, has been weeded out by Whitehall.

Crabb disappeared while engaged in a spying operation under the hulls of Soviet warships which had brought Khrushchev and Bulganin to Britain for an official visit in April 1956. His body, without head or hands, was discovered 14 months later.

The Cabinet records of the Crabb affair have been blanked.

Cabinet disarray, page 2

Beirut: more of the same in 1987

From Robert Fisk, Bourj al-Barajneh, Beirut

"Arreb, arreb," the young militiaman shouted to the driver as we approached a great, muddy chasm in the road. "Pass it by quickly."

The car sloshed in the mud pool beside a sodden mound of earth and sand and there were two rifle shots in quick succession. The militiaman ducked pointlessly, muttering obscenities about Yassir Arafat as our car ground out of the ditch into the shadow of a bullet-spattered mosque. Just the other side of that mound of sand was Yassir Arafat's political renaissance.

Or is it? The camps war has dragged on so long now that the Palestinian tenements glimpsed through the Amal positions are no more than a swathe of grey ruins. "There is so much wreckage in this country," the militiaman opined after much thought, "that you could put Lebanon into a museum."

Even on a bright day, war casts a special melancholy across these mean streets. The pocked walls and broken roofs, the water-logged streets – all bearing those tell-tail evil "stars" punched into the tarmac by incoming mortars – suggested that the Lebanese Shia Muslims on this side of the waterlogged front line fared little better than the Palestinians on the other side of the mountains of sand.

It was supposed to be the second day of Nabih Berri's ceasefire, a unilaterally-declared truce imposed on the forces of the Shia Muslim Amal militia, but disdainfully ignored by Mr Arafat's guerrillas. An old, bespectacled man in a tattered golfing cap grinned at us benignly as we turned our car slowly in the wrong direction. "You'll be shot by the snipers if you go round there," he said. Two Amal gunmen sitting beside the mud watched us without smiling. There was a long burst of shooting from a heavy machine-gun on the other side of a dingy block of apartments.

Continued on page 18, col 6

ON PAGE 7

The Wars of the World – a Times end-of-the-year survey of trouble spots around the globe.

Howe in good cheer on East-West relations

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday that neither the Washington scandal over arms sales to Iran nor the Reagan Administration's loss of control of Congress need adversely affect East-West relations.

In an interview with David Watt on page 14 he predicts that the conservative Russians will not give up on the Reagan Administration. "They prefer the devil, or at any rate the opposite number, they know."

He points out that the American people and Congress are broadly agreed on disarmament priorities after the Reykjavik summit: a 50 per cent cut in strategic weapons, an agreement on reducing intermediate nuclear forces in Europe, and progress on chemical weapons.

Countries ban 'critical' seaman from S Africa

By Chris Steyn

A critically ill seaman who collapsed aboard a South African ship was in London last night for emergency treatment after several countries refused him first aid because of opposition to apartheid.

Officers at the Falmouth Marine Rescue Co-ordination Centre in Cornwall, who assisted in the rescue, criticized the countries for their "hard hearted" attitude. A senior coastguard said lack of co-operation could have cost the seaman his life.

"Ironically, the young seaman is coloured. It was his South African passport that was the problem."

Steward Revel Langeveldt, aged 20, travelled half way round the world in an air ambulance to Heathrow airport yesterday from where he was taken to St Thomas's Hospital. He had spent five days in agony as country after country refused to help.

He collapsed with internal bleeding on Saturday while working aboard the bulk carrier Sea Pioneer. A ruptured intestine was suspected but no ship within a 300-mile radius had a doctor. Kenya was unhelpful, and plans to put him ashore in Djibouti were abandoned when the authorities changed their minds.

"The ship would have had to steam for seven or eight days to get back to South Africa. So it was decided that the only way to save his life was to get him to somewhere where sanity reigns, which is the UK," the coastguard said.

DTI to see Guinness director

By Lawrence Lever

Mr Ernest Saunders, the Guinness chairman, may soon be asked to give evidence to Department of Trade and Industry inspectors investigating the brewing and leisure company.

The Government has increased the speed of its inquiries with the inspectors preparing to interview a Guinness director next week.

This is the first time the inspectors have asked for a formal interview with a Guinness director. They will conduct the interviews under tough new powers to take evidence from witnesses on oath.

The inspectors have already visited several City institutions in the course of their inquiries, examining documents and files on the Guinness bid for Distillers. It emerged yesterday that the inspectors have also been in contact with the City's Takeover Panel, asking to examine its files on the bid for Distillers.

The rift between Guinness and Morgan Grenfell, its former merchant bank advisor, appear to have widened. The bank is disputing Guinness's version that a payment for 2.1 million of its shares at the height of the bid battle was made without its authority.

Details, page 19

'German flew before Wright Brothers'

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

The Wright Brothers were not the first to fly a powered aeroplane, according to a team of researchers in America.

They were beaten into the air by more than two years by Gustav Whitehead, a German-born engineer, who flew a butterfly-shaped, acetylene-powered monoplane.

Connecticut aviation historian Mr William O'Dwyer and his team, together with local senators and other experts want a court to listen to what they claim is "conclusive, irrefutable evidence" and make a ruling that would rewrite aviation history.

It is a claim that is strongly resisted by the Smithsonian Institution in Washington who remain equally certain that Orville and Wilbur Wright were the first to fly a self-propelled aircraft in December 1903.

But Mr O'Dwyer says they have a vested interest in sticking to their story.

"There has been a full scale cover up by the Smithsonian" Mr O'Dwyer said.

"They are displaying the Wright Flyer and get masses of visitors to see it. But under the contract by which the Wright family allow it to be shown they would lose the aircraft if they admitted that someone else flew first."

The Connecticut case received a major boost in December when an exact replica of the Whitehead craft – known simply as Number 21 – flew with a modern engine generating exactly the same amount of power and pushing the fragile craft to the same speed as that achieved by Whitehead.

"Now we are working with engine experts to create the same kind of engine that Whitehead used. Then we will prove once and for all who is right," Said Mr O'Dwyer, a former US Air Force pilot.

He has had official backing from Connecticut state which passed a piece of legislation calling the Smithsonian to a full scale hearing. But so far attempts to get them before a judge have failed.

"We do not think it is the right forum to sort out a histroical controversy" Mr Peter Jakab, curator of early aviation at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, said.

"We have, of course, investigated the Whitehead evidence and there is no doubt that he was not a crank and produced some very interesting aircraft.

"But he was just one of

Continued on page 18, col 5

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NEWS SUMMARY

Clairvoyant tips Thatcher to win

Mrs Margaret Thatcher is set for a clear victory in an October election while the nation should prepare to celebrate a brace of royal baby births in 1987. That, at least, is the message the BBC is about to beam to the world.

Mrs Irene Ison, a clairvoyant who has been making annual predictions on the World Service for the past dozen years, also reckons that Mr Neil Kinnock will be dragged into a big scandal "which should not really be his concern".

Mrs Ison, whose programme will be broadcast at various times this month, has bad news for the European Community - "the EEC as we know it will not exist by the end of 1987" - and some grim tidings for President Reagan - he will have left the White House by the year's end.

Odds on early poll

Mrs Thatcher is likely to call the general election this spring with the Conservatives hot favourites, Ladbrokes the bookmakers say.

The latest odds put the Tories at 4/9 on to have the most seats in the next parliament, with Labour 13/8 against and the SDP/Liberal Alliance 50/1 against.

Until yesterday bookmakers had made autumn the most likely time, for a general election, but Ladbrokes now offer 10/11 on for April 1 to 30 June.

Leading article, page 15

Kipling in jungle

The works of Rudyard Kipling, who died 50 years ago, came out of copyright today (Our Literary Editor writes).

That is bad news for the National Trust, which has received his royalties for the past 10 years; but good news for the publishing industry, which is racing to reprint one of our finest short-story writers.

He was the last British poet to attract a mass readership.

The race is led this week by Penguin, the Oxford University Press, Faber and Pavilion.

Shipyard jobs boost

Smith's Dock shipyard on the river Tees, doomed until two weeks ago, will employ more than 2,000 workers within three years, Mr Richard Holt, MP for Langbaurgh, Teesside, said yesterday.

Arward Associates, the American-led consortium which bought the shipyard from British Shipbuilders, will employ 1,260 by the end of this year. It has told the Government it will take on 1,812 in 1988, and 2,251 by the end of 1989. Mr Holt said yesterday: "These are firm figures. This is just the start of a great revival for the North-east."

The shipyard employed only 1,300 workers when British Shipbuilders decided to close it by the end of this month. The consortium is expected to specialize in building offshore modules and supply vessels.

Death PC moves up

Police Constable Brian Chester (right), the police marksman who accidentally shot dead a boy aged five, becomes a sergeant on Monday.

His promotion by West Midlands Police comes six months after he was cleared at Stafford Crown Court of unlawfully killing John Shorthouse during an armed police raid in Birmingham in August 1985. He returned to duty 11 days after the trial.

PC Chester, a married man aged 35, with three children, had passed his sergeant's examinations before the raid.

Property prices soar

Property prices in the South-east rose by more than 13.5 per cent in the past 12 months, with prices along the south coast soaring by 20 per cent, a chain of estate agents who operate in that area, claimed yesterday.

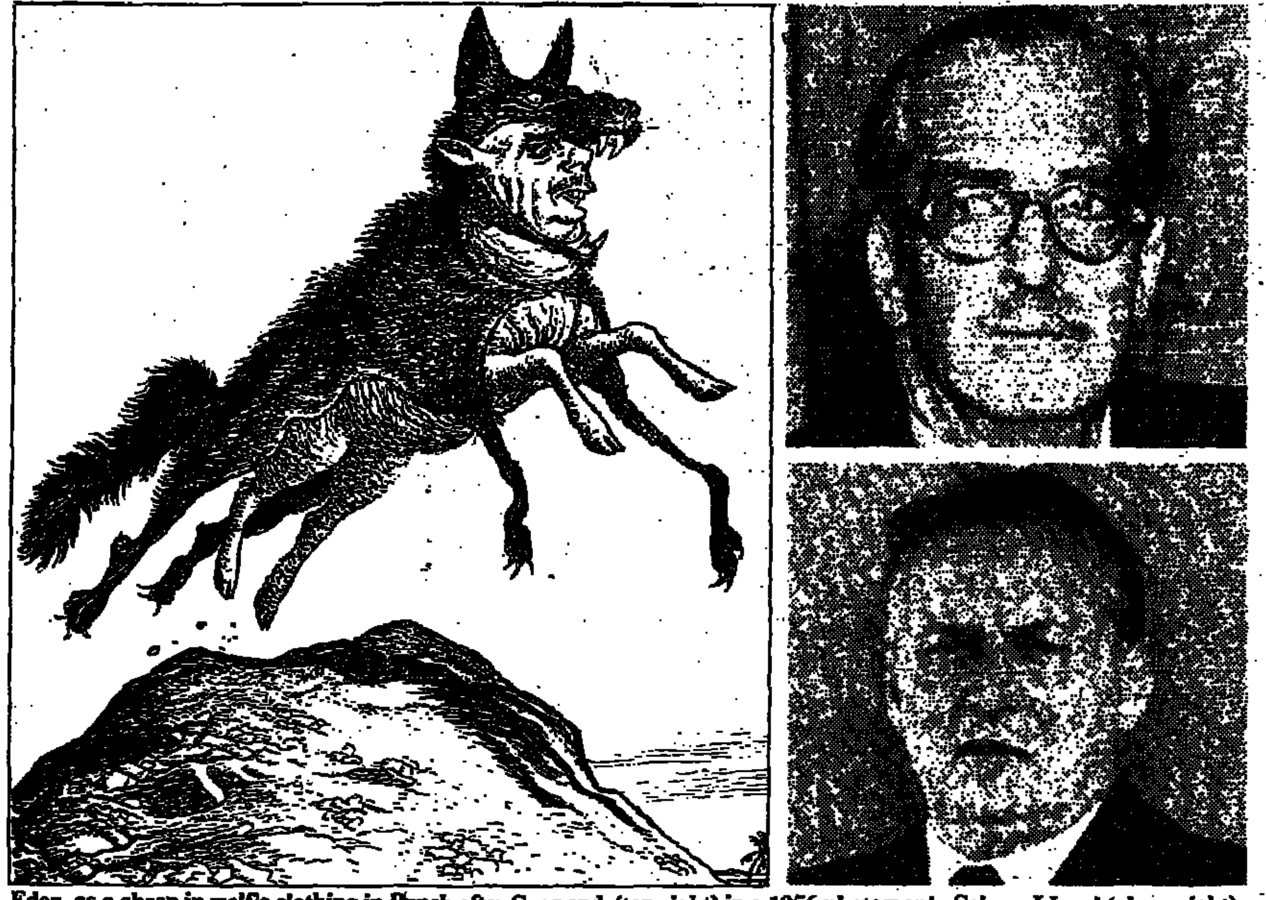
According to Connells Estate Agents, average house prices have risen from £41,798 to £47,452.

Owners of houses blighted by noise from Gatwick and Heathrow airports may now find it easier to move. Gatwick Airport Ltd and Heathrow Airport Ltd are beginning schemes for people who can sell only at deflated prices. About 500 houses near Heathrow and 10 near Gatwick will be eligible for sale to the companies at the market value of similar properties less affected. They will then be offered for resale at the best available price.

Macmillan's hawkish role revealed 30 years on

Cabinet disarray over Suez fiasco

By Michael Evans
and Geoffrey Warner



Eden, as a sheep in wolf's clothing in Punch after Suez and (top right) in a 1956 photograph; Selwyn LLoyd (above right).

Sir Anthony Eden, the Conservative Prime Minister who resigned through ill health two months after the disastrous Suez military operation in 1956, admitted privately to his Foreign Secretary, Mr Selwyn Lloyd, that the whole government should have resigned at the end of November of that year.

The personal admission is made public with the release today of most of the government papers on the Suez affair, under the 30-year rule.

Eden's off-the-cuff remark in a conversation with Lloyd in May 1958, nearly two years later, appears in a memorandum produced by the former Foreign Secretary.

The two men were reminiscing about the Suez affair and Lloyd recalled that on November 28, 1956 he had just returned from New York having failed "to persuade the Americans to do a deal over our withdrawal from Port Said".

Lloyd remarked: "I told him (Eden) that I thought we would all have been in a much stronger position if I had been allowed to carry out my intention to resign at the end of November."

Lloyd referred to his offer of resignation to the Cabinet on November 28 and his Cabinet colleagues' opposition to such a step, in his memoirs, *Suez 1956*, but there is no mention of that in the Cabinet minutes.

However, according to the secret memorandum of the conversation in 1958 among Lloyd's private papers made available by the Public Records Office today, Eden commented that he now thought "that was the moment when we all should have resigned".

Included in the same file is an official history of the Suez crisis written for internal use by Mr Guy Millard, Eden's private secretary, in which he says that President Eisenhower snubbed Lloyd when he flew to the US to seek support over the problem of the withdrawal of British troops from Suez.

Britain felt it was too dangerous to withdraw totally until the United Nations' forces had arrived.

But, according to the Millard history, the Americans had no intention of "lifting a finger to preserve us from financial disaster until they were certain that we were removing ourselves from Port Said quickly".

It was the continued Anglo-American disagreement over Suez that forced Lloyd to offer his resignation.

However, a fascinating series of private letters between key members of the Cabinet and Eden indicate with great clarity for the first time how bitterly divided the Government was much earlier on over the crucial question of using force to solve the Suez crisis.

One of the hawks of the Cabinet who gave a warning that they should not "shrink" from using the weapon of force was the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, Harold Macmillan, who later became Lord Stockton. He died on Monday aged 93.

Macmillan took a beligerent stand right from the beginning and made it quite clear to his colleagues on the Cabinet's Egypt Committee which had been set up on July 27, the day after Colonel Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal Company, that he was not satisfied with the original military plan which was limited to returning the canal to international control.

In a note to the Egypt Committee on August 7, he asked what was to happen next, once two divisions had arrived in the canal zone.

He went on: "Ought we not to consider a different plan altogether, the purpose of which would be to seek out and destroy Nasser's armies and overthrow his government?"

Macmillan even speculated that with the fall of Nasser, Jordan might disappear, Syria and perhaps Lebanon might be merged in Iraq and "a final solution" to the Israeli problem could be found.

But Macmillan's extraordinary and totally unrealistic vision of the future was not shared by many of his Cabinet colleagues who, according to the private papers now released, were anxious for all avenues to be pursued before resorting to force.

Leading the field among the doubters was Sir Walter Monckton, the defence minister, who later resigned before the Anglo-French military attack was launched on October 31 1956.

Several of the private letters refer to Monckton's "outburst" during a meeting of the Egypt Committee on August 24, but, again, there is no mention of any great argument in the minutes released today.

In later Cabinet meetings, Monckton gave a warning that if force was used it would be condemned by a substantial body of public opinion, British oil installations in other Arab countries would face the risk of sabotage and "any premature recourse to force, especially without the support and approval of the United States, was likely to precipitate disorder throughout the Middle East".

But the private letters paint a more dramatic picture of even wider Cabinet disarray over Suez. Alan Lennox Boyd, the Colonial Secretary, wrote to Eden on the same day, August 24: "I was horrified by the doubts expressed by the Minister of Defence."

The same day, Lord Salisbury, Lord President of the Council, in a letter to Eden, signing himself off with the name "Bobbity" wrote: "Walter M's outburst at the end of this morning's meeting was, I thought—as I am sure you did—both painful and rather disturbing.

"But I suspect that there will be a measure of support for his views when the Cabinet meets on Tuesday. Rab (Butler, Lord Privy Seal) is clearly not happy and I gather from what he said to me after the meeting that he has been making inquiries and finds there are quite a number of others, especially amongst the younger members of the Cabinet, who have not yet made up their minds."

The most revealing letter of all is an extraordinary summing up of the Cabinet's views on Suez, provided by Sir Norman Brook, the Cabinet Secretary, to Eden.

Brook advises Eden not to take Monckton's "ill-judged and ill-timed" outburst "too seriously" and says that all the members of the Cabinet, without exception, were "solidly in agreement" that Nasser could not be allowed to get away with his action over the Suez Canal.

Selwyn Lloyd in plot against Syria

A covert plot to overthrow the pro-Egyptian Syrian government was being planned by Britain only months before preparations began in July 1956 for military operations against Colonel Nasser to free the Suez Canal, according to secret papers released today.

Although references to the plot have appeared in a number of books, there has never been official acknowledgement of the secret plan which was given the code name Operation Straggle.

Brief references appear in Cabinet and Foreign Office papers which are released today under the 30-year rule. On March 21 1956, the then Foreign Secretary, Selwyn Lloyd, is reported in Cabinet minutes as saying: "We should seek to establish in Syria a government more friendly to the West."

Six weeks later, on May 2, a note in Lloyd's private files records that "covert action to diminish Nasser's influence in other Arab states is being actively prepared."

On May 29, in an agenda for a Foreign Office meeting on the following day, Evelyn Shuckburgh (now Sir Evelyn) then the assistant under-secretary in charge of Middle East affairs, makes a cryptic reference to "Syria. Straggle."

Operation Straggle was mentioned in a book called *Ropes of Sand* by a former Central Intelligence Agency agent, Wilbur Eveland, in 1980. He said the plot against Syria was revealed to him at a meeting in London at the end of March 1956 by George Young, then deputy director of the secret service, MI6.

Selwyn Lloyd's Suez memoirs published in 1978 mention his statement to the Cabinet in March 1956, but his account seeks to belittle Britain's part in the affair which is portrayed as the brainchild of the pro-Western Iraqi prime minister, Nuri as-Said, whose country had long entertained ambitions to control Syria.

Although Iraq was certainly involved in the plot, the newly released papers appear to cast doubt on Lloyd's picture of a largely passive role.

The MI6 papers on the plot will never be released, under current policy.

There are also three Foreign Office files dealing with Syria in 1956 which have been withheld from the records released today. Even the titles of the files have been deleted from the lists.

However, Sir Evelyn Shuckburgh has confirmed that there was "a lot of thought" at that time about overthrowing the Syrian Government.

He commented: "I do not remember the name Straggle. But I would not necessarily have known about it if it involved the CIA and others. I certainly do recall, though, that there were ideas that we ought to put a better government in Syria."

Sir Evelyn said the idea was Nuri's and that he had said that Iraq would "clean up" Syria, and that Nasser had been upset because Britain was "aiding and abetting" Nuri in promoting the power and influence of Iraq.

Mr George Young said he was surprised that the code name Straggle had been released in the Foreign Office files.

He added: "I am covered by the Official Secrets Act and my memory is not infallible but I think Straggle was an operation or a planning in case of Syrian intervention in Jordan, at the same time as Suez."

Veil stays on Crabb spying episode

By Our Whitehall Correspondent

The mystery of the vanishing frogman, Commander Lionel "Buster" Crabb, who was involved in an unauthorized spying operation on Soviet warships in Portsmouth harbour in 1956, will not be completely unravelled for at least another 70 years.

Although the Cabinet papers about Crabb could have been released today under the 30-year rule, the Government has decided to keep the file with the most sensitive records closed until 2057.

The decision was formally approved by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, under the Lord Chancellor's Instrument in November.

This is the clearest indication that the Crabb affair is still imbued with embarrassing security implications.

The Crabb case may have come up before the Cabinet on the morning of April 19, 1956, the same day that the veteran frogman vanished while examining the hull of the Soviet destroyer, *Smotryashchie*, one of the escort vessels for the cruiser, *Ordzhonikidze*, which had brought the Soviet leaders, Khrushchev and Bulganin, to Britain for an official visit.

Item 5 on the Cabinet agenda for that day remains a blank in the official minutes released today, although the Prime Minister, Sir Anthony Eden, in a biography, is quoted as saying that he knew nothing about the affair until May 3.

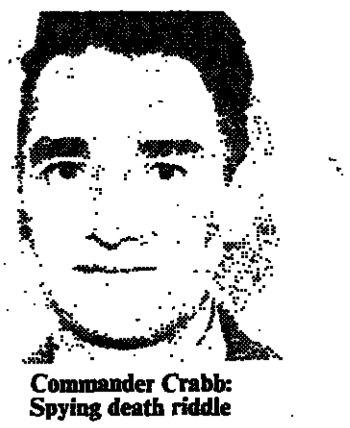
There is a further blank page in the record of the Cabinet meeting of May 8, the day before a statement was made in the House of Commons about Crabb.

In the biography of Eden by Robert Rhodes James, the Conservative MP, it is stated that Eden gave specific instructions that the Soviet warships were not to be examined by any of the intelligence agencies.

Crabb's body was not discovered until 14 months later when it was washed up, headless and handless, in Chichester harbour.

Eden assumed that Crabb had been discovered while examining the hulls of the Soviet warships and had been killed.

But in the papers released today there is no explanation of why the page in the register of the hotel where Crabb stayed overnight in Portsmouth, which had his signature on it, was torn out by a police officer.



Commander Crabb: Spying death riddle

Small car market

Ford given rival's costs

By Daniel Ward, Our Motor Industry Correspondent

Mis-handling by the Department of Trade and Industry of the highly controversial Ford/Austin Rover merger talks in February last year resulted in crucial commercial information being given to Ford, insiders believe.

The department agreed to a Ford request to see the production and marketing costs for every Austin Rover model, from which the company learnt that the ex-factory cost of the rival Metro was £100 higher than the Ford Fiesta.

Ford has used this vital information in the discount war to anticipate when Austin Rover could no longer match discounts on Fiestas if the Metro was not to be sold at a loss.

Industry sources indicate that the average discounts available on the Ford Fiesta were £250 and that the discount on the Metro was always at least £50 lower. This is a significant margin to the manufacturer on a small car.

After the bumper August sales, Ford continued the discount war in September. The outcome was that the Fiesta finished the month with a 7.4 per cent market share compared with the Metro's 4.5 per cent share.

Mr Allan Clark, chairman of Colliers, a top Austin Rover dealer, said Ford's inside knowledge "would continue to affect us for some time".

The Metro outsold the Fiesta in January, but since the merger talks sales of the Ford have been 36 per cent ahead.

Austin Rover is vulnerable to a concerted marketing attack on the Metro because it is this model which provides almost 40 per cent of the company's sales.

Last year Austin Rover's UK market share slipped from 18 to 16 per cent, with a low of just 14.5 per cent in August.

The department has declined to comment on the action of the then Secretary of State, Mr Leon Brittan, in forcing Austin Rover to reveal such commercial information. Austin Rover directors were known to be hostile to the Ford approach.

The Longbridge plant, where the Metro is made, is highly efficient but Ford has a cost advantage because it builds 28 per cent of UK-registered Fiestas at its plant in Spain.

Last night Mr Peter Johnson, Austin Rover's UK sales director said he was unable to comment on the relative costs of the Fiesta and Metro.

Provisionals' split widens

A number of Sinn Fein local councillors in Northern Ireland are expected to defect to the new hard-line breakaway group, Republican Sinn Fein, it was claimed in Belfast yesterday.

Republican Sinn Fein was set up after the walkout by more than 130 delegates from Provisional Sinn Fein's annual conference in Dublin on November 9 over the decision that the party should abandon its traditional abstentionist stance and take up any seats in the Dail, which its candidates may win.

Mr Bob Murray, Republican Sinn Fein's northern organizer, says the new group, led by two former IRA chiefs of staff, Mr Rory O'Brady and Mr David O'Connell, who is chairman, has already set up 70 local branches in 27 of the 32 counties in Ireland, North and South.

Mr Murray, a former full-time Provisional Sinn Fein official and its finance officer in Belfast, is the only known senior Belfast defector to the new group. But he claims that other prominent northern members are merely biding their time.

He said: "Only one local councillor, Eamon Larkin in Armagh, has actually left to join us but some eight or 10 others have expressed an interest. They just don't believe that now is the right time for a move."

Mr O'Brady, Mr O'Connell and their associates are unhappy with the increasingly "political" stance of Sinn Fein in recent years and the consequently lessened emphasis on the so-called armed struggle.

Mr Murray said the new group was concentrating on setting on organizing itself in Ulster's western counties before turning to Belfast, Derry and the east. The greater strength of Provisional Sinn Fein in the North compared with the republic made the task more difficult.

He added: "I imagine that we will be advising republican supporters in future elections to withhold backing from Sinn Fein. To vote for them is to encourage them down the constitutional road."

BR denies threat to 1,500 jobs

British Rail has dismissed claims by Aslef, the rail union, that plans to phase out train drivers' assistants will threaten 1,500 jobs.

BR said they would all be found work. Retirements and moving into existing vacancies would take care of 1,100 and there should be no difficulty in placing the other 400 within a reasonable period.

BR also said it would help any drivers' assistants wishing to transfer to another depot.

The new arrangements were said by BR to be in the best interests of staff and the industry at a time when it was fighting for a share of an increasingly competitive transport environment.

"There is no way anybody is going to be made redundant," BR said, accusing a small group at King's Cross Station of initiating the scare.

Of the threat of one-day strikes when the new arrangements are introduced on January 19, BR said: "Any threat of industrial action has an adverse effect on our business and therefore on the future prosperity of the industry".

But it added the measures had been agreed by Aslef, so any threat would be only from a limited number of members.

SDP back Macmillan policies

By Richard Evans
Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister was urged yesterday to chart a new course in international affairs and follow the direction set more than 25 years ago by Harold Macmillan.

Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, said she should champion the cause of the Comprehensive Test Ban, which "Macmillan and Kennedy rightly saw as critical to de-escalating the nuclear arms race".

She should also "re-read Macmillan's 'Winds of Change' speech in Africa, and recognize that her close identification with the white minority government in South Africa is increasingly damaging Britain's economic, commericial and diplomatic stance in world affairs".

The former foreign secretary said there were a number of areas internationally where the United States, Europe and Britain needed to set out on a different course.

He said those interested in peace should help to persuade the Democratic party in America to use their Senate majority to force a bipartisan policy on a "weakened" President Reagan.

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ANTIQUE CAUCASIAN KAZAK		£3,200	£1,400
ANTIQUE CAUCASIAN SHIRVAN		£3,500	£1,800
BELOUCH	4'10"x3'1"	£95	£50
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Clampdown on football hooliganism and marches

By Richard Evans and Stewart Tendler

New measures to curb football hooliganism and control public demonstrations come into effect today.

The Public Order Act 1986 also makes it an offence for protest groups to contaminate food.

For the first time police will be able to prosecute football supporters carrying smoke bombs or fireworks — this was suggested by Mr Justice Popplewell after an inquiry into safety at sports grounds.

Officers will be able to search for pyrotechnic devices and make arrests for possession.

Control over alcohol is also changed by the Act — some football supporters will find it easier to get a drink, while others will face additional restrictions.

The current ban on carrying alcohol on coaches and trains travelling to league and cup games is extended to private vehicles which can carry more than eight people. The measure is aimed primarily at hired mini-buses and Transit type vans, which have been used to evade alcohol bans.

Under the Act the driver or person responsible for the vehicle will be liable to a maximum fine of £1,000.

Possession of alcohol will carry a maximum fine of £400 or three months prison or both, and those found drunk on a vehicle could be fined up to £400.

"Mini-buses are increasingly being used by supporters to travel to away matches. Most of them are well-behaved, but a minority are not," a Home Office spokesman said yesterday.

However, those who watch football from executive boxes will be able to drink up to 15 minutes before kick-off. And after the final whistle they will have to wait just 15 minutes before being allowed another drink.

Until today the boxes were "dry" for two hours before and one hour after a match, which infuriated football clubs. They complained it put some clients off hiring the expensive executive suites.

The main change on public demonstrations is that organizers of marches will have to give the police six days clear notice whenever it is reasonably practicable to do so.

This section of the Act is aimed at the deliberately disruptive marches where the police are given no cooperation

In future police stations in London will have specially printed forms available for organizers. The Act also allows organizers just to write in with their notification.

If a march goes ahead without notice the police will have the power to identify and report the organizers, who will face a maximum fine of £400 on summary conviction.

Customary marches such as Remembrance Day parades will be exempt.

The question of spontaneity, customary marches and identification of an "organizer" may provoke test cases.

The contamination clause is aimed at groups which threaten to contaminate food or actually do so. This would include the activities of some animal rights groups and also cases such as the attempt to inject Israeli fruit with poison some years ago.

The Act refers generally to consumer products and could be applied to other products affected by deliberate interference. The maximum penalty will be 10 years' imprisonment.

Tougher rules for tests on animals

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Tougher laws on animal experiments which come into force today carry with them a maximum penalty of two years' imprisonment and an unlimited fine.

More controls are to come; within two years places breeding and supplying animals will have to keep proper records and be inspected. The Home Office emphasizes that the use of stray or stolen pets will not be allowed "in any circumstances".

Today's laws mean that for the first time every proposal for scientific work using animals will need special scrutiny and authorization. Any animal in severe pain or distress which cannot be alleviated will have to be immediately and humanely killed.

Most work will not be allowed to approach that upper limit, "but will be confined to a lower threshold of severity in one of three bands: mild, moderate and substantial".

A statutory animal procedures committee, of lay and animal welfare members as well as scientists, replaces the present advisory committee on animal experiments. It will monitor the operation of the law.

In tackling the issue of pain, the laws will also take account of discomfort, distress, impairment of health and well-being, morbidity and mortality.

Anaesthetics, analgesics and other means of preventing or minimizing pain must be used wherever practicable.

Reuse of an animal which has been anaesthetized and allowed to recover consciousness is prohibited, except where the further work is carried out entirely under a general anaesthetic from which the animal is not allowed to recover.

Any animal suffering or likely to suffer adverse effects may not be reused in any circumstances and must be immediately and humanely killed.

Huey brings a happy ending to cliff hanger

Huey the spaniel was a heroine yesterday after saving her best friend who had plunged 70ft down a sea cliff.

The dog sprang into action after Bo the boxer slipped over a crumbling cliff edge and somersaulted headlong to the bottom.

To the astonishment of Mr David Sutton, her owner, Huey managed to find a route down the rock face and scrambled to help her stricken chum.

Huey, a two-year-old spaniel cross, then gingerly showed Bo the way back up the slippery rock face at Portishead, Avon.

When Bo became exhausted from her injuries half-way up Huey nudged her back up the rest of the way.

Bo was given emergency treatment by a veterinary surgeon for a broken jaw and gouged chest.

Mr Sutton's wife, Angela, aged 24, said later: "We have an awful lot to thank Huey for. If she hadn't gone down to Bo when she did the shock Bo was suffering may have set in a lot quicker.

"You just don't know where she could have ended up then. I am so grateful that Bo is all right."

Mrs Sutton, of Eastwood Place, Portishead, near Bristol, added: "Bo and Huey are great friends and go out together at least once a week for a run. "Bo skidded through some bushes and couldn't see the cliff edge until it was too late.

"But Huey went after her without any hesitation - it was remarkable, a real act of friendship."

Burglar left dying man unconscious on floor

A burglar ignored a man lying unconscious on the floor after breaking into a flat in Clapham, south London, he told an inquest yesterday.

And two burglars, who rifled an old woman's home after finding her dead in bed, were jailed yesterday in South Wales.

Mr Carnel Watson admitted breaking the door of Mr Nathaniel Johnson's flat in Clapham and stealing beer after seeing him lying on a cover on the floor.

"I couldn't tell if he was breathing or not," he told Dr Paul Knapman, the Westminster coroner.

Mr Johnson of Hawkesworth House, Oakland estate, was found semi-conscious the next day and died three weeks later on October 23 after going into a diabetic coma.

Dr Knapman recorded an open verdict.

The two burglars who rifled an old woman's home, after finding her dead in bed, took £50, a radio and the front door key to the house where Mrs Florence Mary Holly lived alone in Ardwyn Terrace, Gelli.

Leighton Miles, aged 22, of Margaret Street, Tynewydd, Rhondda, Mid Glamorgan, and Gary Wakeford, of Ardwyn Terrace, Gelli, Rhondda, both admitted burglary and were each jailed for two years.

Drugs safety chief cautious on Aids treatment

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Professor William Asscher becomes the chairman today of the Committee on Safety of Medicines. One of his first tasks will be to oversee the streamlining of the existing early warning system of monitoring for side effects of drugs.

But Professor Asscher takes over when the committee faces a number of new challenges. He said: "On fighting Aids there will be tremendous pressure to license new treatments, and when a vaccine eventually appears it is going to raise all sorts of technical, ethical and moral issues on how it is to be done."

He expected great pressure for treatment to combat Aids but he said the committee must not license a drug just on compassionate grounds, and it should not lower standards on quality, safety and efficacy in approving a medicine. That would only store up damage for the future.

With advances in genetic engineering research, new types of medicine were about to appear that could only be tested in people, hence posing difficulties for the committee in drawing up the criteria for determining their safety.

However, Professor Asscher also suggested that old problems would persist. He pinpointed as an obvious potential trouble spot the vast range of compounds known as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, used to relieve pain and reduce swelling in the multitude of disorders described as rheumatism and arthritis.

Although all drug-related side effects should be reported, one estimate put the number at fewer than one in 10 reactions.

Advances in computer analysis were clearly to play an important part in raising the alarm in future. But Professor Asscher said the details of changes were not yet settled.

He added: "We hope to be able to verify much sooner whether the signs of a drug-related reaction are true or false.

"A drug that caused a disorder of the blood like aplastic anaemia would be picked out quickly now, but one with the risk of provoking, for example, gastric bleeding could be more difficult to detect at an early stage."

The non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents fell into the second category.

He said his committee, to which doctors should report any sign among their patients of harmful reactions to the drugs they prescribe, was in a non-win situation.

"If we recommended withdrawal of a drug we were criticized some times for not doing it earlier or for removing a remedy that some doctors wanted to continue because in certain cases it was the only effective treatment".

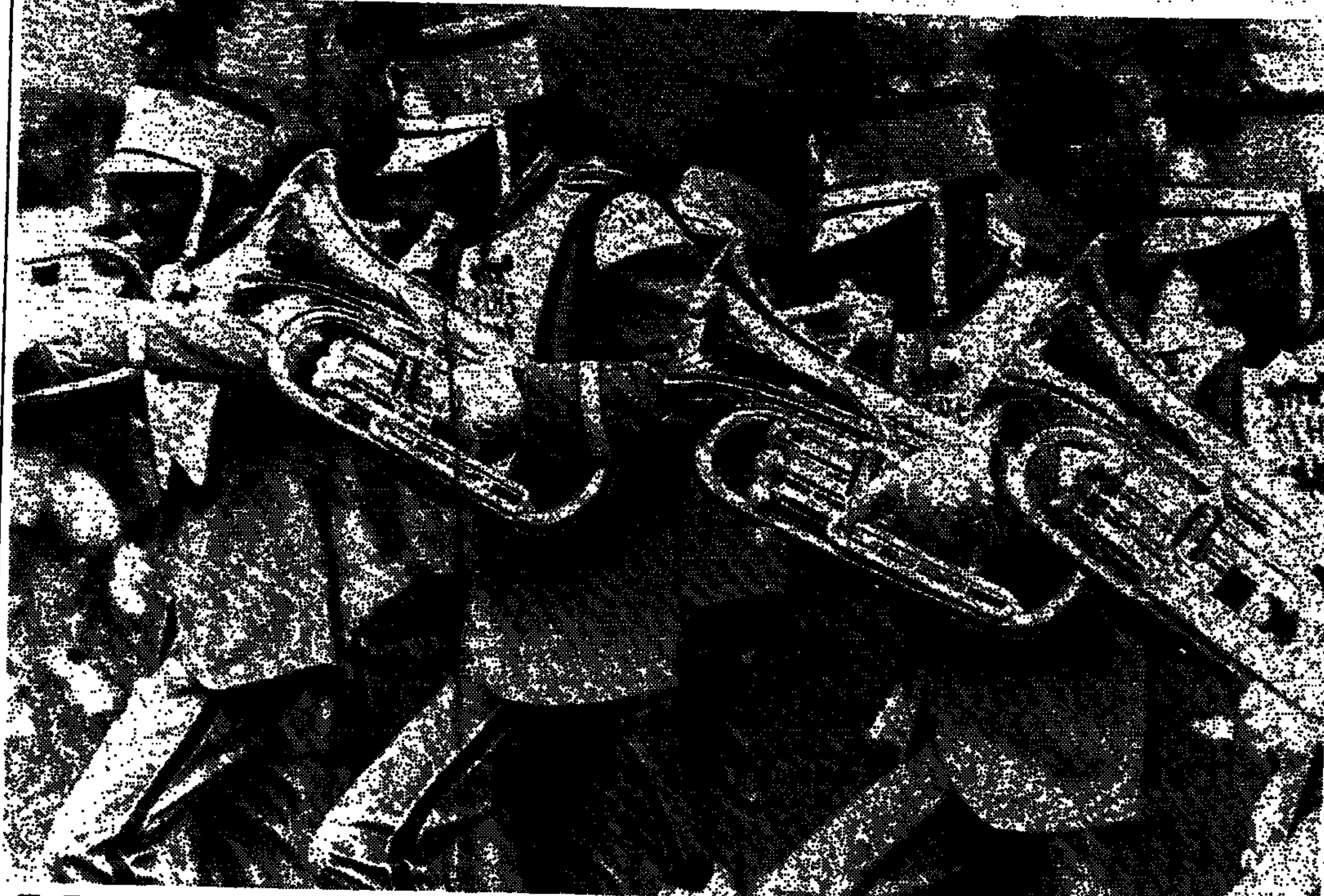
Professor Asscher also raised the question of doctors' handwriting. "It is well recognized that most of the worst mistakes, not just in medicine, are in bad communication."

He said repeat prescriptions written for the doctor to authorize were clearer. While the details when written by the doctor for the medication were right, additional information was defective in about one in five prescriptions.

He had a technical reason behind his appeal to doctors to write more clearly. The committee had an interest in the additional information as statistics for creating a more sensitive safety alarm.

Professor Asscher is director of the Renal Research Institute at Cardiff Royal Infirmary. He has pioneered ways of looking for subtle biochemical changes caused by drugs since his first research 25 years ago.

Aids crisis, page 5



The Tuskegee Institute High School Band rehearses for today's big procession through London. Decorated floats and more than 2,000 musicians from European and American marching bands will parade along Piccadilly, Regent Street and Oxford Street at lunchtime. It is the first public parade to be held in the City of Westminster on New Year's Day (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

Gollies go in nod to race lobby

Enid Blyton's classic Noddy books have been reprinted without the golliwogs after pressure from the anti-racist lobby.

Publisher Macdonald Purnell has printed a new version of the stories with the golliwogs replaced in the illustrations.

The golliwog gangsters who mugged and stripped Noddy in Dark Dark Wood in the 1940s version become gnomes who only steal the little boy's hat, bell and boots.

Even grateful Mr Golliwog at Golliwog Garage, who gave Noddy his famous red-and-yellow car for catching car thieves in Beek's orginal drawings, becomes a non-golly and is replaced by Bobby Bear.

The changes were made after years of pressure from anti-racists who said the dark-skinned toy creatures were demeaning to black people.

A spokesman for Macdonald Purnell said yesterday that they still did not accept the racist criticism but realized some people were offended.

Now both versions of *Hurrah for little Noddy* and *Here comes Noddy again* are on sale, but the censored version is 25p more at £1.50.

A spokesman for the Commission for Racial Equality welcomed the demise of the gollies and hoped "sensitive" people would know which version to buy.

He said: "We had a number of complaints from people who felt that the depiction of the Noddy characters was insensitive in the present climate.

"They may have been okay 40 years ago but are not appropriate in a multi-racial society. The golliwogs are gross caricatures of black people and offensive to them."

The spokesman said he hoped firms such as Robertson's Jams, who use a golliwog as their symbol, would take note of what had happened.

New Year roundup

Weather wet — drivers dry

By Mark Ellis

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader, visited Wales yesterday to see the trail of flood damage left by torrential rain.

The storms drenched homes, blocked many roads and swelled rivers forcing farmers to move livestock to higher ground.

The Labour leader and Mr Barry Jones, the Shadow Welsh Secretary, who accompanied him on the tour of north Wales, called for Government help to prevent flooding in the future.

Torrential rain also affected parts of England and more than 3 ft of floodwater cascaded across streets and fields in Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire, when the River Ouse burst its banks.

As mid-Wales mopped up after its worst floods for 20 years, travel agents reported a record number of Britons heading for the sun and police appealed to motorists celebrating the New Year to heed the drink-drive warnings.

In Nottinghamshire, which has spearheaded a tough campaign against drinking and driving, police claim a tremendous success and said the 135 drivers arrested in the last 12 days represent 2.63 per cent of the 5,130 breathalysed.

The figure compares with 9.1 per cent or 2,822 drivers arrested out of the 31,010 breathalysed last year in the county between January 11 and November 30.

Supt Roger Storey, head of the county's traffic division, said last night: "The public have listened to our message. It does reflect a change to a more responsible attitude and different social patterns which has reduced the risk of road-users being killed or injured by drink-drivers."

Many of the 44 police forces in England and Wales are collating their drink-drive figures for Christmas and the New Year, but most drivers are said to have heeded the warnings.

In Norfolk, police praised a "boozer cruiser" bus service between city pubs in Norwich for helping to reduce the number of drink driving offences to 69 arrests compared with 96 for the holiday period last year, a fall of 28 per cent.

Figures for Derbyshire and Staffordshire were against the general trend, where more drivers were arrested for being over the drink limit than last year.

Motoring organizations reported a quieter than usual holiday

In Staffordshire, a Scottish girl, aged 17, who has not been named was killed when she was hit by a sports car as she ran across the M6 near Stafford after an argument with her husband who had parked their pick-up van on the hard shoulder

● Travel agents estimate that more than ten million holidays are expected to be booked in 1987, an increase of 10 per cent on last year with a large rise in the number of expensive long haul trips.

Lunn Poly, the travel agency chain, yesterday reported two million bookings worth £500 million for overseas summer holidays since its 1987 brochure was launched, a 20 per cent increase on last year.

Adoption by gays attacked

By Richard Evans
Political Correspondent

Brent council was criticized last night over plans to allow homosexuals and lesbians to adopt and foster children.

Dr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Local Government, said he was appalled by the proposal, which is due to come into force in the London borough in April.

It will coincide with the left-wing council's move to outlaw "race, sex, and heterosexist stereotyping in stories, books, and chidren's facilities".

"Most voters in my constituency, irrespective of colour and creed, are horrified by any prospect of children being fostered by homosexuals. Given the Aids crisis, it is suicidal," Dr Boyson, MP for Brent North, said yesterday.

He says in a letter to the council: "I have no desire to see the persecution of homosexuals in any way, but young children, to my mind, deserve a chance to grow up in a 'normal' family with the presence of a father and mother figure.

"I similarly object to any presentation of homosexuality and lesbianism in Brent schools as the 'normal' way of life."

Dr Boyson believes the policies of hard-left London councils will prove more damaging to the Labour Party than the continuing Militant saga in Liverpool.

Israelis invited to boost UK tourism

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Government is about to embark on a drive to win for Britain part of the substantial two-way tourist trade between Israel and the United States.

Ministers are promoting moves to persuade the thousands of Israeli visitors to America each year and the even greater number of American visitors to Israel to stop off in Britain.

Mr David Trippier, the Minister for Tourism, is flying to Israel next week for talks with his opposite number, Mr Abraham Sharir, who visited Britain five months ago.

The aim will be to encourage the Israel tourist authorities and the British Tourist Authority to work closely together to forge links between the two countries.

Ministers want the publicity material about Britain already distributed in Israel to be strengthened. They also aim to persuade travel companies in Israel to open up more outlets to Britain and to offer prospective visitors to America the opportunity of a British stop-off.

Israeli tourist offices in the US will be urged to offer similar facilities.

Tens of thousands of American Jews fly to Israel each year to see the Jewish homeland; thousands of gentiles are also drawn by the attractions of Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

While about 130,000 UK residents went to Israel in 1986, there were about 100,000 Israeli visitors to Britain and ministers want to increase that figure substantially. About 53 per cent of Israeli visitors come to Britain to visit friends and relations.

Hunt for love-tug girl

A girl aged five made a ward of court before Christmas has been abducted by her Belgian father, helped by two men.

Airports and ports across Britain were alerted yesterday in case he tries to smuggle her out of the country.

The abduction of Nele Plu happened when the father, Joris Plu, entered his estranged wife's home at Bullwell, Nottingham.

Det Chief Insp Terry Smith said: "The young mother was forcibly held but not hurt and the child removed from the house on Tuesday evening. The mother is now being looked after by her second husband."

Nele was made a ward of court 12 days ago, and custody was awarded to her mother. Police say Mr Plu has a Red Honda Civic car with a Belgian registration, ETN905.

Abduction case remand

An unemployed man appeared before Cheshunt magistrates in Hertfordshire yesterday accused of abducting a teenager two weeks ago.

Peter Johan Chmilowskyj, aged 30, of Berkshire Gardens, Palmers Green, north London, was remanded in custody until tomorrow. He is charged with taking away Catherine Ainger against her will with the intent of having sexual intercourse with her.

Painter on rape charge

A painter aged 29 appeared in court yesterday charged with raping a young secretary on Christmas Day in Bedminster, Bristol.

The accused man, from Clifton, Bristol, was remanded in custody until Saturday by Bristol magistrates.

Double death case remand

Derek Ord, aged 38, a builder from Ashford, Middlesex, was remanded in custody by Tunbridge Wells magistrates yesterday, charged with murdering his wife and mother-in-law on Christmas Eve.

Mrs Joan Ord, aged 39, and her mother, Mrs Dorothy Abnett, aged 76, were stabbed to death at Mrs Abnett's home in Rope Walk, Sandhurst, Kent.

Getty gift to museum fund

J Paul Getty, junior, has given £10,000 to the £500,000 appeal to restore the birthplace of Thomas Bewick, the eighteenth century wood engraver, as a museum.

The fund, launched last October, has raised £180,000 for work on Cherryburn, the six-acre farm near Prudhoe in the Tyne valley, where Bewick was born in 1753.

Help for blind councillor

A blind district councillor is to get a paid reader.

The personal reader service for the blind is restricted to those in employment but the Manpower Services Committee decided that as Mrs Norma Town, from Darlington, Co Durham, paid a class one contribution to the DHSS on her income from the council, she was legally employed and entitled to the grant.

Inquest on star's friend

The inquest on Mark Golding, a friend of Boy George, the pop singer, was opened and adjourned until January 28 in Westminster yesterday.

Mr Golding, aged 20, was found collapsed at a flat in Westbourne Terrace, Paddington, west London, 10 days ago, shortly after being arrested with Boy George on drugs charges.

Sentence plea

Rosie Johnston, aged 23, who was jailed for nine months for supplying heroin to Miss Olivia Channon, daughter of Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has lodged a High Court appeal against her sentence, her solicitor said yesterday.

Family cheer

Mrs Davina Thompson, aged 35, the world's first triple transplant patient, last night welcomed the new year from her bed at Papworth Hospital, near Cambridge, surrounded by her family.

Portfolio —Gold—

Couple go for taste of adventure

Six readers shared in yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000, each receiving £666.66.

One of the winners, Mr Richard Endall, a retired schoolmaster from Chapeltown, Sheffield, has more cause to celebrate because tomorrow is his golden wedding anniversary.

"Some of the money will go towards paying for the celebrations. But my wife and I do want to use the money to do something adventurous," he said.

Mr Endall and his wife, Dorothy, plan to go on a nostalgic journey to places which they first visited as a young married couple.

Another winner, Mrs Frances Keyes, a pensioner from New Malden, Surrey, has been playing Portfolio Gold since it started in *The Times* and is delighted at winning the prize. Two more pensioners were also prize-winners.

Mrs Molly Silvester, of Chippenham in Wiltshire, plans to use her winnings to visit her son in Canada with her husband.

Mr Trevor Short, of Shandon, Dunbartonshire, has no specific plans on how to spend the money.

"I am stunned with our good fortune. What a lovely new year's gift," he said.

The other winners were Mr Robin Kilty, of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, and Miss Sharon Prickett, of Plymouth, Devon.

Readers who wish to play the game can obtain Portfolio Gold cards by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

**Portfolio Gold
The Times
PO Box 40
Blackburn
BB1 6AJ**

Mrs Molly Silvester, who plans a visit to Canada.

Mr Richard Endall: double cause for celebration.

Workers filled by a sandwich

By Guy Ker

More than half the adult population eat sandwiches for lunch during the working week, and less than a quarter indulge in traditional meat and two vegetables, according to a new survey on eating habits.

Six per cent of the working population skip the midday meal altogether, with men and women resisting temptation in equal numbers, while 52 per cent eat sandwiches and only 23 per cent sit down to a full meal.

The survey, commissioned by Baxters, the soup company, provided one surprise for nutritionists.

Professor Hugh Sinclair, of the Institute for Human Nutrition, said the figure which showed that 45 per cent of elderly people had a traditional lunch of meat and vegetables did not concur with his own findings.

"I am surprised because of the cost. We are quite worried about old people not getting enough healthy food such as fruit and vegetables because they can't afford to eat properly."

Eating sandwiches was in itself neither healthy or unhealthy, Dr Sinclair said: "It depends on what is in them.

"A lot of sandwiches are junkfood, as one can see by looking at railway canteens, but they can be all right.

" It's important to use wholemeal bread. It's a question of how one makes them

"Skipping the midday meal isn't neccessarily unhealthy either. It depends on what you have for breakfast and dinner. I normally have little for lunch, some yoghurt and an apple perhaps, but then I have wholemeal toast and fish pate for breakfast and I usually cook myself some fish for dinner."

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NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

NATIONAL SAVINGS

هكذا من الأصل

● Young blame swinging '60s ● Public wants moral leadership ● Sex habits changing

No, they won't be dying of ignorance

A significant proportion of Britain's young single men and women blame the permissiveness of their parents' generation, the promiscuous Sixties, for the spread of Aids, the disease which now shadows their own.

More, one in three of these people, aged 18 to 29, now share with their elders the conviction that a major epidemic will only be avoided by a return to stricter moral values. Indeed, a significant minority, one in four, claim to have already modified their sexual behaviour along the lines suggested by the Government and other campaigners.

These are some of the most compelling facts to emerge from a poll conducted for *The Times* by MORI into this country's knowledge of the yet-incurable disease and its implications for changes in our attitudes and behaviour. The questions put to a sample statistically reflecting the views of 30 million adult Britons are also compared here with the answers of a sub-section of younger single people presumed to be more at risk.

The conclusions show a nation far more level-headed and knowledgeable than might have been supposed at the end of a year blighted with headlines about "The Gay Plague" and thunderous with exhortations about Judgments of God. But they also indicate a nation still more inclined to apply draconian measures against others – for example, isolating those infected – than restraining themselves.

Less likely to help injured strangers

To the suggestion that the Aids problem would not have arisen in Britain were it not for the permissive society, 36 per cent of the young, scarcely fewer than the proportion of all respondents, agreed. A larger number, 52 per cent, disagreed, but the size of the censure vote on the past, as it were, surprised researchers accustomed to youth's airy dismissal of moral strictures. Another hefty minority of precisely similar proportion, 36 per cent, agreed that a return to "traditional family values" was part of the remedy.

aids

THE TIMES MORI POLL

The poll also reveals a clear understanding of how Aids is – and is not – transmitted. Respondents cited as the main media of passing the disease homosexual intercourse (93 per cent), heterosexual intercourse (82 per cent), blood transfusions (83 per cent) and hypodermic syringes (79 per cent) – and largely dismissed the stuff of myths such as lavatory seats, or mere proximity to a carrier.

This level of awareness, the pollsters say, is rare. They would be surprised if, for example, more than 10 per cent of a similar sample to that which so accurately named the three main ways of transmitting Aids would be able to name three cabinet ministers.

It could be argued, then, that the aim of the Government's "Don't Die of Ignorance" campaign against Aids has already been achieved, and thus future Aids victims will die from either defiance or complacency. Certainly, it could now be argued that the forthcoming television advertisements should carry the emphasis on precautions to be taken against the spread of infection rather than lectures on the consequences of casual multi-partnered sex: since the risk is clearly seen, the availability of what is at least a partial remedy is what needs to be as clearly demonstrated.

There are hints of panic behind some responses. Sixteen per cent say they are less likely now to give blood, 39 per cent are less likely to attempt mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, 22 per cent to aid a cut and bleeding stranger after an accident. The young are no more merciful in this respect: indeed, marginally more than a third of them think that Aids carriers should be *isolated* from the rest of society.

Generally, however, most other answers suggest a deep sense that Aids is something that could only happen to someone else (although, just in case, seven people in every hundred will now try to avoid even a precautionary tetanus jab like, well, the plague).

Such contradictions continue: one in three people with children under 18 would decline to send their child to a school where another pupil was known to be carrying Aids. As a lecture by an Aids expert to the parents at a school where a 10-year-old haemophiliac was being shunned by playmates recently made clear, this is a fearful over-reaction.

Yet as many as 42 per cent of married people say that they would be less likely to have sexual intercourse with someone other than their husband or wife as a result of what they have learned about Aids. The 53 per cent who indicated no change in their behaviour include, of course, those who – for religious, moral or simply emotional reasons – would remain determinedly faithful, irrespective of the threat from Aids.

Younger people were asked if they are more or less likely to use a condom, a widely promoted safeguard. More than one in four indicated that they would. This figure surprised researchers accustomed to much less dramatic swings in product-user habits. The fact that 68 per cent of the young (like 79 per cent of all those questioned) said they did not propose to *switch* to the use of condoms could suggest either confidence in their relationship or an existing use of condoms.

Schools seen as more important than parents

When asked, in effect, who was to blame for the Aids shadow upon us, there was, in addition to the strictures upon their parents' salad years, the predictable swipe at "Them": the Government had done too little (53 per cent) to inform the public (though, clearly *someone* has managed to put the facts across) and "They" were spending too little (66 per cent) to support research and find a cure. Alongside this thought was the bleak belief from more than one in three, young and old alike, that no cure would be found by the end of the century.

Little blame seems to attach to the Lord. Only 13 per cent (including 9 per cent of the young singles) felt that the epidemic was a judgement of God. But then neither is very much hope laid at His door for a lead in helping to prevent or reduce the spread of Aids. Asked to nominate, from a long list of options, which influences they felt would be most important in combatting the disease, the Church was in twelfth place, nominated by only five people in every 100.

Placed first were television news programmes and documentaries, (a finding which will be of huge comfort to programme makers, who are often accused of being responsible for so much that is sick in our society). Next, strikingly, came schools. This may be one of the poll's most important statements: the promotion of the classroom above parents, family doctors and Government advertising slogans as a medium whereby those on the threshold of sexuality should learn the new imperatives of sexual behaviour suggests both a recognition of the feeble value of father-and-son chats and a role for teachers of rather more use than deracializing nursery rhymes.

Providing new generations with an armour against the horrors that can now follow upon carelessly shared sex is seen in the poll not to be a task specially appropriate for the scriptures (three times as many respondents of all ages opted for the leadership qualities of pop idols than the Church). This may be an indicator of deep pessimism for men like Manchester's Chief Constable, James Anderton; their consolation must be in the statistic that another sizeable minority (42 per cent), and a third of the young, believe that the Government information campaign on Aids *should* make moral judgements, should declare that certain types of sexual behaviour are, quite simply, wrong.

Brian James

MORI interviewed a representative quota sample of 1.093 adults aged 18 to 54, including 286 single people aged 18 to 29, at 55 constituency sampling points throughout Britain. All interviews were conducted face-to-face on December 27-29, 1986.

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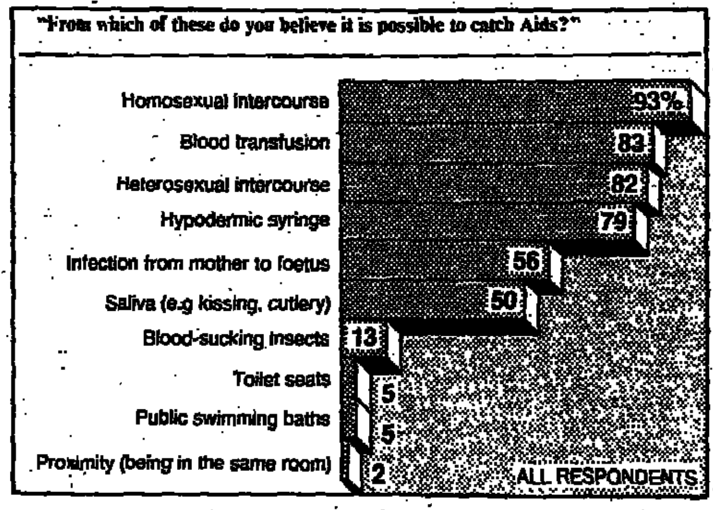
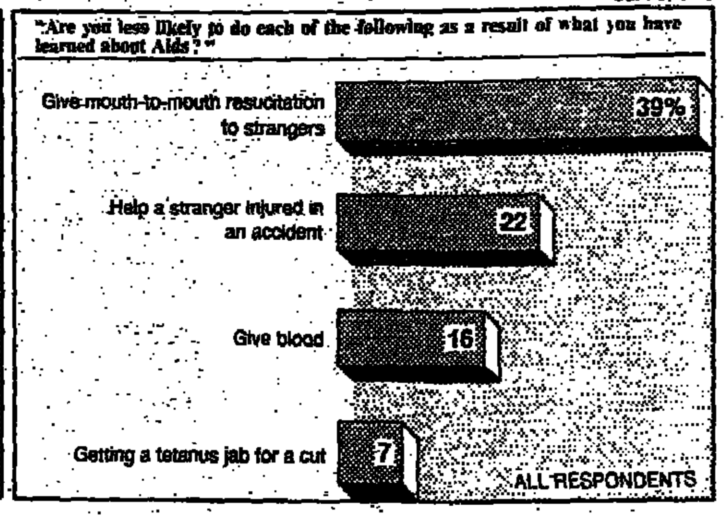
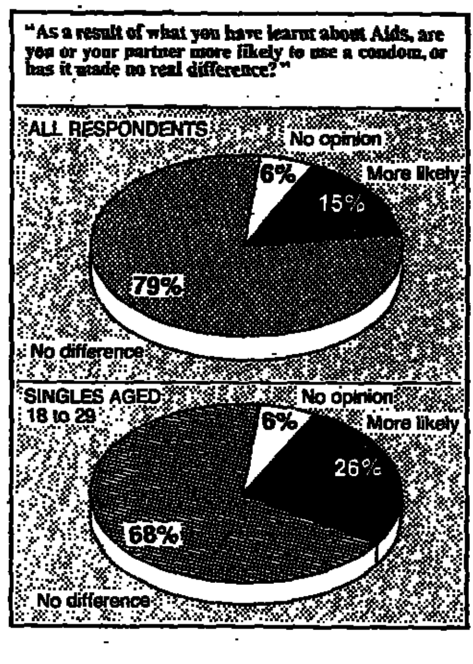
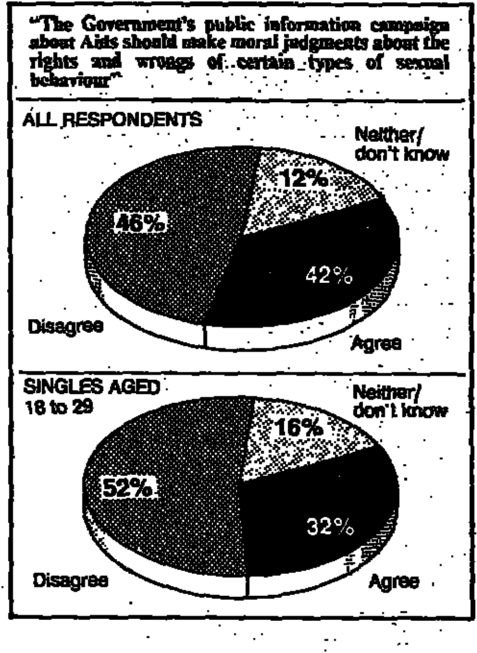
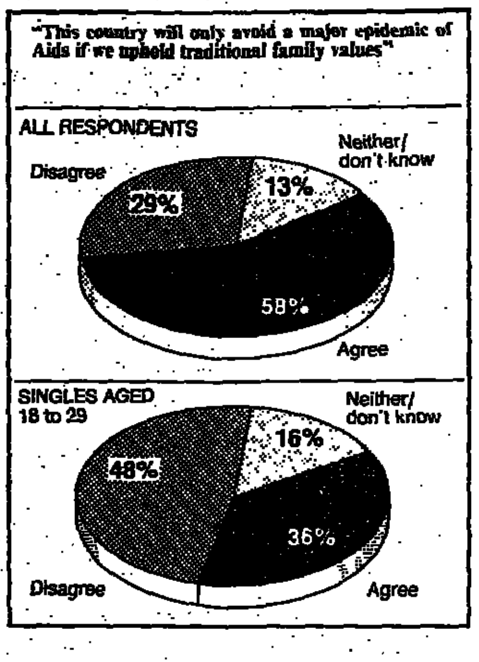
Geoffrey Sims

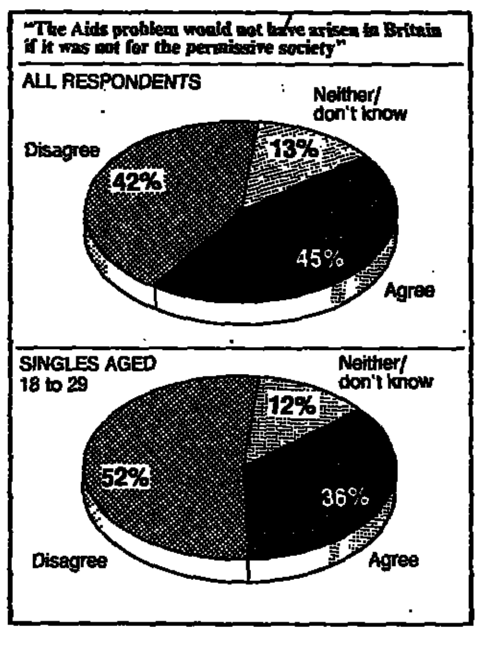


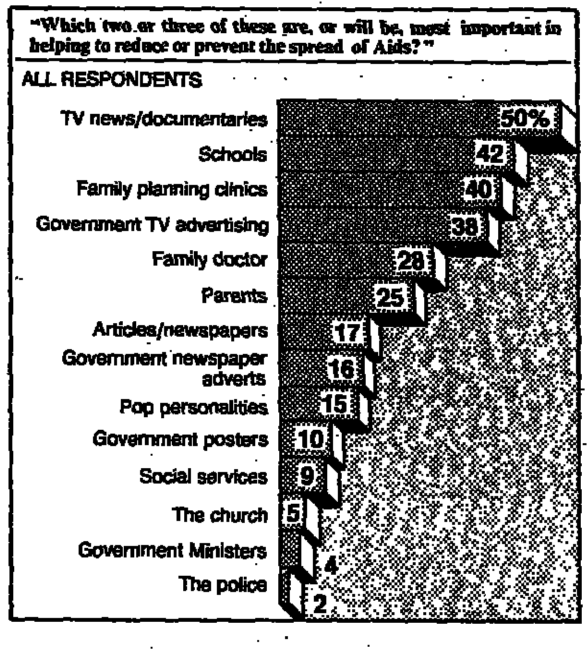












Plea for removal of roadside hazards

By Daniel Ward
Motor Industry Correspondent

Road traffic experts believe better designed "roadside furniture" could reduce injuries in the 45.000 accidents a year which involve only one vehicle. More than half those accidents involve hitting a lamp post, tree, bus shelter, barrier or telegraph pole, which are often badly sited.

Next Friday there will be a conference on the subject at Birmingham University.

Dr Steve Lawson, of the West Midlands joint planning and transportation data team, who will address more than 250 delegates, told *The Times*: "Collisions with street furniture seem to have been ignored in the last 20 years and it is only in the last two or three years that we have noticed how these designs can cause problems."

He said one example was a road sign supported by a pole set on the outside of a barrier, which guided a car on to the pole.

Birmingham City engineers have already identified high risk sites and have begun to adopt "breakaway" street furniture. This includes replacing conventional steel support poles for warning chevrons with two-piece poles. On impact the bolts are designed to shear, so reducing the blow to the car.

Dr Murray Mackay, head of the accident research unit at Birmingham University, says research expenditure in Britain on transport safety is "derisory" when compared with other countries.

● The AA has given its first Seal of Approval to a rear seat belt for children. The belt's adjustable slide enables adult seat belts to be adapted for children over the age of two.

Launch of the Securon belt is timely, as all cars registered after April will have to have rear seat belts fitted. Statistics show that children are 10 times more likely to be killed or seriously injured if unrestrained in cars.

Mr Tom Arnold, Conservative MP for Hazel Grove, Manchester, and his wife, Elizabeth, with their first child, Emily, who was born on Monday at Portland Hospital, London.

Hospital warns patients

Cash scarcity rules out non-urgent surgery

By Jill Sherman

An orthopaedic surgeon in the West Midlands has told 200 patients on his waiting list that the hospital does not have enough money to treat them.

Mr John Guy, at the Worcester Royal Infirmary, has written to his patients waiting for non-urgent operations, such as hip replacements and removal of bunions, saying that because the hospital is trying to make efficiency savings elective orthopaedic surgery can no longer be carried out.

"If you wish to complain about this deplorable situation I suggest you contact the hospital administration or your MP," the letter said.

One patient, Mr Phil Harrison, aged 38, who needs a plastic kneecap to repair a damaged arthritic joint, was told that there was no hope of the operation being performed.

Mr Harrison, who has been on Mr Guy's waiting list for two years, suffers severe pain, has to use a walking stick and is unable to work.

Mr Guy said: "Over the last 10 years the number of fractured femurs has doubled. Old ladies who fall down and break their hips are admitted to hospital beds but it is then often very difficult to discharge them because they are not well enough to go home. They clog up the beds and no elective surgery can be done."

He has been pressing Worcester District Health Authority to have special beds designated for elective surgery so that people waiting for total hip replacements can be seen. Last year the district set up a pilot project for a year providing three elective beds. Mr Guy says his waiting list for hip replacements was reduced from two years to three months. But the district has now said it can no longer afford to keep the beds open.

"It was set up as a short-term project with non-recurring money," Mr Jim Waits, Worcester district general manager, said yesterday.

"We would like to have a special cold orthopaedic unit in the district but we do not have the money. Elective surgery is still being carried out by the other two orthopaedic surgeons at the hospital."

All health authorities are competing for the £50 million earmarked in the Government's autumn statement to help to reduce waiting lists during the next two years.

Bids from the 14 regional health authorities were due at the Department of Health and Social Security yesterday, but some regions have been given an extra few days to finalize schemes submitted by their districts.

The reduction of waiting lists, now standing at more than 670,000, and waiting times, is seen as a top priority by the Government and senior National Health Service managers have been working hard throughout the Christmas period to try to get the bids in.

Schemes already submitted include the setting up of five-day wards, the appointment of extra consultants, taking on short-term staff such as nurses and clinical assistants, increasing operating sessions and doing work in the evenings and weekends.

South-Western Regional Health Authority has put in a bid totalling £2.5 million. It includes a scheme to set up a new plastic surgery service in either Exeter or Plymouth, the appointment of an extra orthopaedic consultant to reduce waiting lists in Gloucester health authority, and increased cardiac surgery facilities at Bristol and Weston health authority.

Gloucester is one of many districts which is being financially penalized for increased efficiency.

Although the district is carrying out an increasing number of hip operations and seeing more patients, the waiting lists are still expanding. There are more than 1,000 people waiting in the district for orthopaedic outpatient appointments.

People are waiting between 12 and 17 weeks for urgent appointments and between 20 to 29 weeks for non-urgent appointments, Mr David Walker, unit general manager of Gloucester Royal Hospital, said.

In-patient waiting lists have increased by 24 per cent in the past 18 months. About 1,312 people were waiting for treatement in September 1986 compared with 1,061 in March 1985.

But Mr Walker said that the number of knee and hip operations performed in the same period had increased by 34 per cent.

"Orthopaedic surgeons have made a concerted attempt to reduce waiting lists. Waiting times have dropped from two years to below 12 months within 18 months. But the hospital's budget is now overspent by £30,000. Treating more patients costs more money."

Robinson Crusoes rush to be isle ranger

By Guy Ker

The search to find a "Robinson Crusoe" to run a small but historically rich island in the Bristol Channel has met an enthusiastic response that appears to guarantee the success of a four-year conservation project.

More than 50 people have already applied for the job of first warden of Flat Holm, which lies in the middle of the Severn Estuary about two miles from either shore, and an appointment is expected by the end of spring.

The warden will live in a two-bedroom flat in a farmhouse which has been restored by a project team organized by South Glamorgan County Council to accommodate the growing public interest in the rich natural and cultural heritage associated with the 50-acre island.

Thousands of sea birds nest on the island, and Danish pirates, medieval monks, and Victorian cholera patients have all in turn called Flat Holm home. Legend has it that two of the murderers of Thomas Becket were buried there, while both Victorian and Second World War gun batteries were located on the island.

Although the Severn's unpredictable tides make Flat Holm more remote than it would otherwise seem, suitable applicants are advised that social skills will be just as useful as qualities of self-reliance.

Dr David Worrall, manager of the project, said the £10,000-a-year job would suit a married couple because all-round skills would be required: "Although the job will obviously attract someone interested in islands and solitude, they will have to get on well with people. With all the visitors we hope to attract, there won't be time to get lonely."

South Glamorgan County Council, which leases Flat Holm from Trinity House, hopes to have overnight accommodation for visitors at the centre by next summer.

Pyramid selling

Dubious firms face tighter controls

The Government is to waste no time in its determination to curb dubious companies which still manage to fool the public into investing its savings in pyramid selling schemes.

Mr Michael Howard, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Trade and Industry, is aware that to introduce a Bill in Parliament would take far too long before it became an Act.

Instead Mr Howard, after consultation with consumer affairs teams at the department and the Direct Selling Association will introduce new controls to replace those in the Pyramid Selling Schemes Regulations of 1973.

The association represents a number of legitimately run and nationally known multi-level direct sales companies, including Avon and Tupperware.

The constructive talks will begin this month. It is expected that the draft of the new regulations will be ready by the end of February and in force shortly afterwards.

Pyramid selling swept through Britain in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The Fair Trading Act in 1973 banned the most blatant practices.

Pyramid selling, as such, is not illegal, but if any company breaks any of the rules governing its operation it breaks the law.

Clever cowboys continue to find new ways to evade the law. The "casualties" are the people who fall for the sophisticated and tempting propaganda in the form of leaflets, pep talks and "examples" of those who have made fortunes.

The gullible are still finding themselves with garages or spare rooms full of goods for which they paid cash in advance. In many cases they face personal financial ruin

The basis of pyramid selling is for a person to buy a position in a company: the more cash invested in the purchase of stock, the higher and more grand the title and the larger the discount.

He or she then has to convince others to invest smaller sums in the owned stock. Their discount is not so large. Therein lies the bait for the top-of-the-scale investor.

In a recent review the Department of Trade and Industry made new proposals which would limit the size of an initial investment and also provide controls of subsequent stock investment by ensuring that they are underwritten by actual orders from customers.

Mr Richard Berry, director of the Direct Selling Association, said: "We tell would-be investors to choose a scheme which concentrates on selling rather than recruiting others."

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WORLD SUMMARY

Greeks spend to beat VAT rises

Athens – Videos, champagne and imported goose liver were among luxury items that suddenly vanished from shops after panic buying by Greeks determined to beat price rises as value added tax is introduced here today.

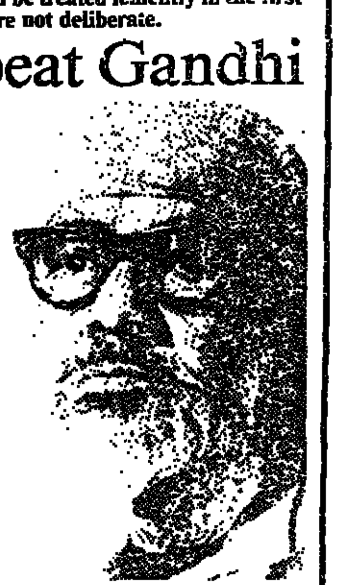
Fearing that VAT would touch off profiteering that could ruin its austerity programme, the Socialist Government has already imposed a three-month price freeze until the end of January.

Most luxury goods are being subjected to 36 per cent VAT, and although the European levy is meant to replace a wide range of national taxes, most Greeks suspect that VAT will simply go on top of the current prices, marking them up by at least 20 per cent across the board.

Essential goods and services will pay 6 per cent VAT, and the price of a few of them, including such Greek staples as coffee, will actually be reduced. All other products will carry an 18 per cent VAT. Health and welfare services, as well as farmers and small businessmen, will be exempt.

There is such utter confusion on how the system will work that the Finance Ministry, which is sponsoring television spots to explain it to the public, is promising alarmed citizens that errors and omissions will be treated leniently in the first few months, provided they are not deliberate.

MP who beat Gandhi



Delhi – Raj Narain, right, the Indian Socialist politician who defeated Mrs Indira Gandhi in her own constituency in 1977, died on Tuesday, aged 69.

In 1975, his petition against Mrs Gandhi for unfair electoral practices was upheld by the High Court of Uttar Pradesh, and this was a major factor in the chain of events leading to her assumption of dictatorial powers. She declared an internal emergency and arrested all major opposition politicians, including Mr Narain.

When the Janata party defeated the Congress party in 1977, putting an opposition party in power for the first time since independence, Mr Narain was apointed Minister of Health. He later resigned from the Cabinet in a dispute with right-wing Hindu MPs, saying he wanted to uphold secular ideals.

Rail deal called off

Harare – A takeover by Botswana of the Zimbabwean-run rail line that was to have been the first step in Cecil Rhodes's Cape-to-Cairo rail link in the 1890s, has been postponed indefinitely (Jan Raath writes).

The transfer was due today, but last week the South African homeland state of Bophuthatswana threatened to shut its border with Botswana unless that country acknowledged its "independence".

Iran talks break up

The Hague (AP) – The US was accused by Iran's negotiator yesterday of dealing in bad faith after talks on returning almost $508 million (£364 million) in frozen Iranian assets ended abruptly.

The US said the fourth round of talks was at an end, but Mr Absadollah Nouri claimed the Americans told him no agreement could be reached because Washington officials were unavailable during the holidays.

Clue in silver coins

Nairobi – Ancient silver coins excavated from the oldest known Islamic site on the East African coast, at Shanga on the Lamu Archipelago, have aroused great interest, some archaeologists suggesting that they may have been minted locally (A Correspondent writes). Similar coins are thought to have been found only on Pemba island, close to Zanzibar.

Dr Mark Horton, the Cambridge archaeologist organizing a dig, says that the Pemba coins appear to have a later date and to bear names of local rulers.

Less than a centimetre in diameter, the coins' inscriptions are in Kufic, an early form of Arabic.

Not so free

Washington – Press freedom suffered on every continent in 1986, with 19 journalists killed, 178 arrested and 214 instances of harrassment in 40 countries, according to Freedom House, a lobby group that monitors freedom around the world.

Eta claim inn bomb

Madrid – Eta, the Basque armed separatist organization, has claimed Monday's bomb attack on a Pyrenean ski resort inn where security men guarding King Juan Carlos on holiday were staying. It attacked the King as "the heir of Franco".

Butler honoured

Paris – M Georges Gaston Sanègre, better known simply as "Monsieur Georges" in his capacity as head butler to the Duke and Duchess of Windsor in their Paris home, has been awarded an honorary Royal Victorian Medal in the New Year's Honours List (Diana Geddes writes).

Like other Royal Victorian Order honours, the medal is traditionally awarded by the Queen for services to the Royal Family.

As a foreigner, M Sanègre, who served the Duke and Duchess for 40 years, could receive only an honorary award.

Mme Elaine Fontaine, wife of M Marcel Fontaine, the French hostage held in Lebanon, talking to journalists at a hotel in West Beirut. She and her son Erik, left, arrived yesterday to be closer to M Fontaine and to try to pass a new year message to him. He was kidnapped on March 22, 1985.

Meanwhile, Israel yesterday expressed shock and outrage at the reported slaying in Beirut by Shia Muslim gunmen of three Lebanese Jews.

"We express shock and outrage over the senseless murder of innocent people. Such an atrocity again reveals the true nature of the terrorist organizations operating in Lebanon," a Foreign Ministry statement said.

The statement was issued after a Beirut newspaper said it received a message from the "Organization of the Oppressed in the World" group saying the three were "executed" as agents of Mossad, Israel's foreign intelligence organization. Israeli officials had no confirmation that the three, kidnapped between March 1985 and September 1986, were dead.

Paris will prop up the franc

From Diana Geddes
Paris

Paris would take every possible measure to defend the franc, M Edouard Balladur, the Finance Minister, said yesterday as it weakened further against the deutschmark in the face of continuing industrial unrest in the country.

M Balladur sought to reassure international financiers that France had no intention of changing its economic policies despite the strikes by railwaymen, Paris public transport workers, merchant seamen and some miners. The gas and electricity workers also are threatening to stop work on Monday in protest over the government's wages policy.

"The worst thing which could happen to France would be to change its economic policies which are aimed at inducing economic recovery in order to start creating jobs again," M Balladur said.

"There will be no change of our economic policies, nor any devaluation of the franc. If necessary, I will take all measures, without excluding any, to defend the franc."

Over the past few months the franc had strengthened against all currencies except the deutschmark, which had risen on the foreign exchange markets as a result of speculation against the dollar.

Although there was still no sign of an end to the two-week-old rail strike by late yesterday, there were hints that the Govenment might be preparing to withdraw the new merit-based salary scales, at least in their present form.

The new scales have been at the heart of the present dispute and the unions have been demanding their withdrawal as a prerequisite to talks on other outstanding issues.

Hints of a possible withdrawal of the scales came yesterday from union representatives after talks with M Francois Lavondès, the senior civil servant and independent mediator of the dispute.

If the scales are withdrawn, it would represent another damaging climbdown by the Government only a few weeks after its humiliating defeat at the hands of students protesting against education reforms.

World leaders' new year messages

Gorbachov: arms cuts ball in American court

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, last night sent a new year's message to the American people calling for a dynamic upgrading of the Geneva talks on nuclear disarmament, which are due to resume later this month.

The message was sharply critical of the Reagan Administration's recent handling of arms control talks, and claimed that the onus was now on Washington to respond to Soviet initiatives. "We are for agreements on the most radical reductions in arms, both nuclear and conventional," Mr Gorbachov stated. "Now the ball is in Washington's side of the court."

Having snubbed President Reagan's invitation to repeat last year's historic exchange of televised greetings, Mr Gorbachov chose instead the roundabout route of publishing his answers to written questions from the veteran US journalist, Mr Joseph Kingsbury-Smith, who has interviewed every Soviet leader since Khrushchev.

Western observers said the tone of the message was in keeping with recent attempts by the Kremlin to step up international pressure on the White House and to portray the Soviet Union as the most disarmament-conscious of the superpowers.

Asked whether he was in favour of continuing the Geneva talks in 1987, Mr Gorbachov replied: "Yes, we are. We are for talks which would get out of the state of being fruitless and inert and would acquire real dynamism or, in a word, become real talks on reducing nuclear arms and on preventing an arms race in outer space.

"We pressed for this in Reykjavik and we shall press for it still more vigorously in 1987."

Asked what he would like to tell the American people on the occasion of the new year, Mr Gorbachov said: "I would like first of all, to say that the Soviet people want to live in peace with the Americans and do not feel any hostility to them. On behalf of the leadership of the USSR, I could add that when working out our policy on matters of war and peace we are as honest with the American people as with our own people."

The message reiterated all the major points of Soviet statements on arms control issued since the collapse of the Iceland summit. It accused Washington of committing a "defiant act" by violating the Salt-2 Treaty in November.

The message, which diplomats said did little to encourage optimism that the present stalemate on arms control can be quickly broken, emphasized that in the nuclear age, the question of security demanded mutual efforts.

The Soviet leader was asked whether he thought a compromise accord on anti-missile defences was possible in the next two years if the two sides agreed not to deploy space-based strategic defence systems for a specific length of time.

In reply, he called for preservation and consolidation of the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty, which Moscow claims specifically outlaws the deployment of the US Star Wars programme.

Botha: white poll date named soon

From George Brock
Johannesburg

South Africa's white electorate will go to the polls early next year, probably in April.

President Botha said in his new year message yesterday that he would announce the date of a general election for the 4.8 million white voters when Parliament meets at the end of January.

If an announcement is made on January 30, South African electoral law would mean that voting could not be before the end of March. Had the Government not decided to call an election early in the year, it would have been obliged to schedule several by-elections in February.

President Botha has been hinting at the possibility of an election since last summer.

Mr Colin Eglin, leader of the main opposition Progressive Federal Party, said yesterday: "Mr Botha should stop playing games with the public."

The remainder of President Botha's message delivered his now-familiar diatribe against the outside world for judging and interfering in South Africa's affairs.

"We dare not yield," he said in the televised message, "to the irresponsible and often superficial demands which will destroy everything created over so many decades by so many generations."

An election could lead to opposition parties to left and right increasing slightly their parliamentary strengths.

Classroom chaos reflects stalemate over apartheid

From George Brock, Johannesburg

Aggrey Klaaste, the anxious parent of a 14-year-old boy, said wearily: "The year 1987 was to have been the year for schooling and the situation was working towards that in its own shaky fashion. And here comes the Government to pull it all down again."

Mr Klaaste, whose boy is just starting to be drawn to the whiff of sulphur in the Soweto air, is bitterly angry about the likely consequences of a fresh set of government regulations aimed at controlling the chaotic state of schools in the black townships as they prepare for a fresh intake next week.

The beginning of each term has become a major political event in the key areas of Johannesburg and the eastern Cape. The education of black children is one of the most fundamental issues dividing the Government and its opponents.

The trouble began in Soweto's schools 10 summers ago and the shambles and tensions of parts of the black education system since are a vivid and exact reflection of the entire country's impasse over apartheid.

The past year has seen school boycotts and incidents that have left dozens of schools on the Witwatersrand and in the eastern Cape closed indefinitely. In July and August, at least 400,000 pupils failed to re-register at school. A Department of Education and Training spokesman said this week that the highest number of schools affected by boycotts at any one time has been 260 out of 7,500. But it has admitted to up to 450 in the past.

There are in fact fewer than 2,000 schools in urban areas and only 328 African secondary schools – the type of school most affected by boycotts.

It is not difficult to see why Dr Ken Hartshorne, of the University of Natal, thinks the Government is losing its grip on black schooling. "With the closures," he wrote recently, "it is probable that (government) policy has stepped on to a slippery slope which can only lead to the shutdown of more schools."

Even the presence of pupils at a school, he said, was no guarantee that any learning was taking place with regularity and calm so hard to achieve.

Dr Hartshorne was a member of the Government-appointed De Lange Commission, which examined the education system five years ago and recommended, among other things, that it should be run by a single authority. The Government has continued to insist on its policy of "separate but equal" racial administration.

At the same time it has had to abandon some tenets that have simply gone out of date. Dr Hendrik Verwoerd once said that there was no place for the African in the European community "above certain forms of labour". But he has been followed by finance ministers who have realized that an under-educated black workforce is and will be a brake on the economic growth which has helped defend white supremacy against the outside world.

Goverment attempts to reform education resemble nothing so much as a tortoise trying to tie itself in knots. "Separate but equal" leaves the country with 18 education departments and 15 ministers. The Government has announced a 10-year plan to equalize black and white education but rapidly admitted that it could not be achieved in that time.

Expressed as percentages, recent increases in spending on black education are indeed huge: 2,000 per cent since 1973. But even good intentions are being outstripped and overshadowed by demography, radicalization in the townships and accumulated mistrust of apartheid. There were just 800,000 black schoolchildren in 1953; by 1990, there will be eight million. One of the teaching unions recently called on the Government to open the 200,000 empty places at white schools to black pupils.

Before that could happen the Group Areas Act, the

South Africa's black schools
Part 1

Separate Amenities Act, the Population Registration Act and other racial separation laws would have to be repealed. Only private schools can mix the races, and business and industry, impatient with the rate of change, have seized on that small opening to direct a large proportion of their reform money that way.

The attitude of the black population wavers between the caution and aspirations of the older generation and the revolutionary ardour of the young "comrades". Education shows signs of the trend visible in other parts of township life in street committees and "people's courts": a new slogan, "people's education", has emerged.

This development clearly alarms the Government. It has detained virtually all the leading activists on education. This week it announced the catch-all powers to control every detail of school life which so angered Mr Klaaste.

His bitterness stems from the feeling that the radicals had not been having the schools issue all their own way. "We have the kind of kids who have been given a whole range of excuses to buck the system. They don't need any more."

An increasingly large number of organizations and individuals have been calling for a full-scale return to school.

The teaching profession is caught between two implacable opponents who both realize the pivotal importance of schooling to the future. Teachers are sometimes literally caught in the crossfire; more than a year ago, a white teacher and several pupils were hit by birdshot fired by soldiers at a school in Pinville, Soweto. Another teacher opened an exam script to find the pupil had headed it: "Fail me and you get the treatment".

Tomorrow:
"People's education"

EEC-America trade war

West faces political and economic crisis

From Richard Owen
Brussels

"This might look like a phoney trade war with America," one EEC official said yesterday. "We have had dire threats and extended deadlines before. But this time it is for real: the Americans will carry out their threat to restrict our exports, and we will hit back hard."

The air of "phoney war" is reinforced at the windswept plate-glass EEC Commission headquarters, which is almost deserted because of the new year holiday. But inside, senior officials responsible for Europe's relations with the outside world are at work in a final bid to avert what Mr Willy de Clercq, the External Relations Commissioner, calls "a dispute damaging to both sides of the Atlantic" and "a political as well as economic crisis".

The trade war, together with the looming EEC budget crisis, are Britain's most unpalatable legacies to Belgium, which takes over the EEC presidency today.

Mr De Clercq welcomed Washington's decision not to implement its higher tariffs of up to 200 per cent until the end of this month. The targets are gin (mainly British, to a value of £50 million), brandy and white wine, (mostly French), olives, tinned hams and Dutch and Danish cheeses. The original deadline was yesterday.

Washington may also block imports of scotch whisky. But most officials find it hard to see how Mr De Clercq can reach a compromise with Mr Clayton Yeutter, the US trade representative. The two have already held intensive but fruitless discussions on the issue over the past six months.

Mr De Clerq: dispute damaging to both sides.

The US view is that the American measures are "retaliation" for the loss of American grain exports to Spain following the enlargement of the EEC a year ago. President Reagan and Mr Yeutter want compensation for $400 million (£270 million) worth of lost exports. But the EEC does not accept this argument, and will hit back by raising tariffs against American wheat, rice and corn gluten feed.

Each side has further "hit lists" up its sleeve, so that 1987 is likely to be disfigured by a tit-for-tat trade war despite Mrs Thatcher's warning to the European Parliament in December that a transatlantic trade war would be disastrous.

EEC foreign ministers will consider ways out of the impasse when they meet in Brussels on January 26. But the heart of the matter is the determination of both the EEC and the US to protect their farm and food industries.

The only glimmer of light is that the EEC and the US have agreed tentatively to discuss reduction of farm subsidies within the framework of the new round of Gatt (the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade).

The EEC made a start on reforming its own agricultural over-spending under the British presidency at the end of 1986, and this may persuade Washington that the EEC is "putting its house in order".

US insurance company cuts payments for circumcision

From Michael Binyon, Washington

In a move likely to reopen a national debate that has been quietly growing in recent months, the Pennsylvania branch of America's largest medical insurance company plans from today to stop paying for routine infant circumcision.

The state's Blue Shield and Blue Cross organization will join four other state branches – California, Washington, Alaska and Maine – which have decided not to cover the operation unless there was proven medical need.

A spokeswoman said that American medical organizations had several times declared there was no medical or health advantage in circumcision. And although the move would save Blue Cross $1.3 million a year, she said the real reason for the change was to discourage unnecessary operations.

The move comes as a campaign against circumcision, still widely practised in the United States, gathers pace, provoking heated debate in newspapers and advice columns, with opponents and proponents arguing not only on health and hygiene but on deeply ingrained American customs and male attitudes.

One California lobby group has just named the Prince and Princess of Wales "Parents of the Year" because of their decision not to have their two boys circumcized, even though Prince Charles, the group said, was circumcized at birth.

Proclaiming 1987 the "Year of the Intact Child", the National Organization of Circumcision Information resource centres said that in honouring the Prince and Princess it was really honouring all parents, especially circumcized fathers, who "refuse to perpetuate unnecessary surgery just because it was done to an earlier generation when we didn't know better".

The founder of the lobby group, Mrs Marilyn Milos, a former nurse, said: "Last year 790,000 American boys – more than 40 per cent – came home from the hospital intact and non-circumcized. Our aim is to increase that number to one million by 1988."

Hospital circumcision was promoted in the early 1900s as a "cure" for everything from alcoholism to masturbation, but did not catch on until claims made during the Second World War that it would prevent venereal disease and cancer. Today, however, the US was the only country left where the practice was widespread.

The California lobby said tradition, taboo and conformity tended to promote the practice. But Mrs Milos cited a list, compiled by a Los Angeles researcher, of prominent uncircumcized Americans to show that such non-conformity was no barrier to success.

Included on the list are President Reagan, Alan Alda, Paul Anka, Sonny Bono, Francis Coppola, Bing Crosby, John Dean III, Clark Gable, Hugh Hefner, Jimi Hendrix, Gene Kelly, Robert Kennedy, Jack Kerouac, Martin Luther King, Elvis Presley, Vincent Price, Mickey Rooney, Frank Sinatra and Dick Van Dyke. It is unclear how the list was compiled.

The Washington Post recently ran a page of articles debating the practice; one of the most widely circulated "agony aunts" frequently runs readers' letters on the subject, with assertions that it is un-American to leave infants uncircumcized.

Ireland and Greece hold up Community reforms

Brussels – Far-reaching and controversial reforms of the EEC due to come into force today are being held up at the eleventh hour because of delays in the ratification procedure in Ireland and Greece (Richard Owen writes).

The reforms, contained in the Single European Act must be ratified by all 12 member states before they become law. Irish objectors, including Mr Charles Haughey of the opposition Fianna Fail, say new EEC foreign policy procedures will endanger traditional Irish neutrality. A new EEC foreign secretariat headed by a former Nato diplomat is already poised to start operations in Brussels in the new year.

The Single Act has caused some bafflement because of its obscure title and complex contents. It has even given rise to EEC jokes (Question: what is the Single Act? Answer: Europe's answer to Aids). But constitutional lawyers draw attention to the salient point of the reforms: the Single Act codifies a partial transfer of national sovereignty to EEC institutions, including the Council of Ministers, the Commission and the European Parliament.

The Act hammered out by EEC leaders at the Luxembourg summit a year ago, is a watered down version of earlier visions of European union. It nonetheless arouses opposition and several attempts have been made to stop it.

Lord Denning led an unsuccessful bid to halt ratification of the act at Westminster. In West Germany the Länder, or federal states, claimed the Act reduced their regional powers as well as those of the Government in Bonn, but the German Parliament ratified the Act after Bonn had given the Länder assurances that their grievances would be met.

In the latest last-ditch attempt to sink the Act, Mr Raymond Crotty, an Irish anti-Common Market lawyer, has obtained an injunction in the Dublin High Court against Irish ratification on the grounds that the act contravenes the Irish Constitution. Irish officials said they hoped the injunction would be overturned in the new year by the Irish Supreme Court, but there was likely to be a considerable delay.

Belgium, which today takes over the EEC presidency from Britain, hopes to use the 30th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome in March to celebrate the new reforms. The act gives the European Parliament greater powers, increases majority voting in the Council (reducing the national veto in areas like the internal market), and provides for a united foreign policy.

The Act's reference to co-ordinated "political and economic aspects of security" is seen in Dublin as the thin end of the wedge of an EEC defence policy, especially since all EEC states except Ireland belong to Nato. EEC officials said that by contrast the Greek delay was not based on an objection of principle so much as on pressure of business in the Greek Parliament.

The officials said that even if Greece and Ireland failed to ratify the Single Act in time, the EEC would still try to put some of the reforms into effect from the start of 1987 by activating the new foreign policy secretariat and by using majority voting in the Council of Ministers wherever possible.

The new foreign policy secretariat is made up of diplomats from five EEC states and is led by an Italian diplomat, who previously served as a political adviser to Nato as well as deputy Italian Ambassador to the United Nations.

Wars of the World

- January 1: recognised throughout the world as the day of renewal, good intentions and fresh resolve. But for millions caught up in the suffering and hardship of war no New Year resolutions can change the prospects for 1987.

- Around the globe 25 major conflicts bring death and despair, from the mass butchery of the Iran-Iraq nightmare to the smaller casualty lists of more local power struggles.
As usual many of the victims will go uncounted and unrecorded. Truth remains the first casualty, leaving even the United Nations with no real estimate of the human cost.

- Today *Times* correspondents assess the hopes and fears for the coming 12 months, beginning on a hopeful note: a chance of a political settlement appears in sight for one conflict, while two others seem to be winding down — one for lack of money, the other for lack of will.

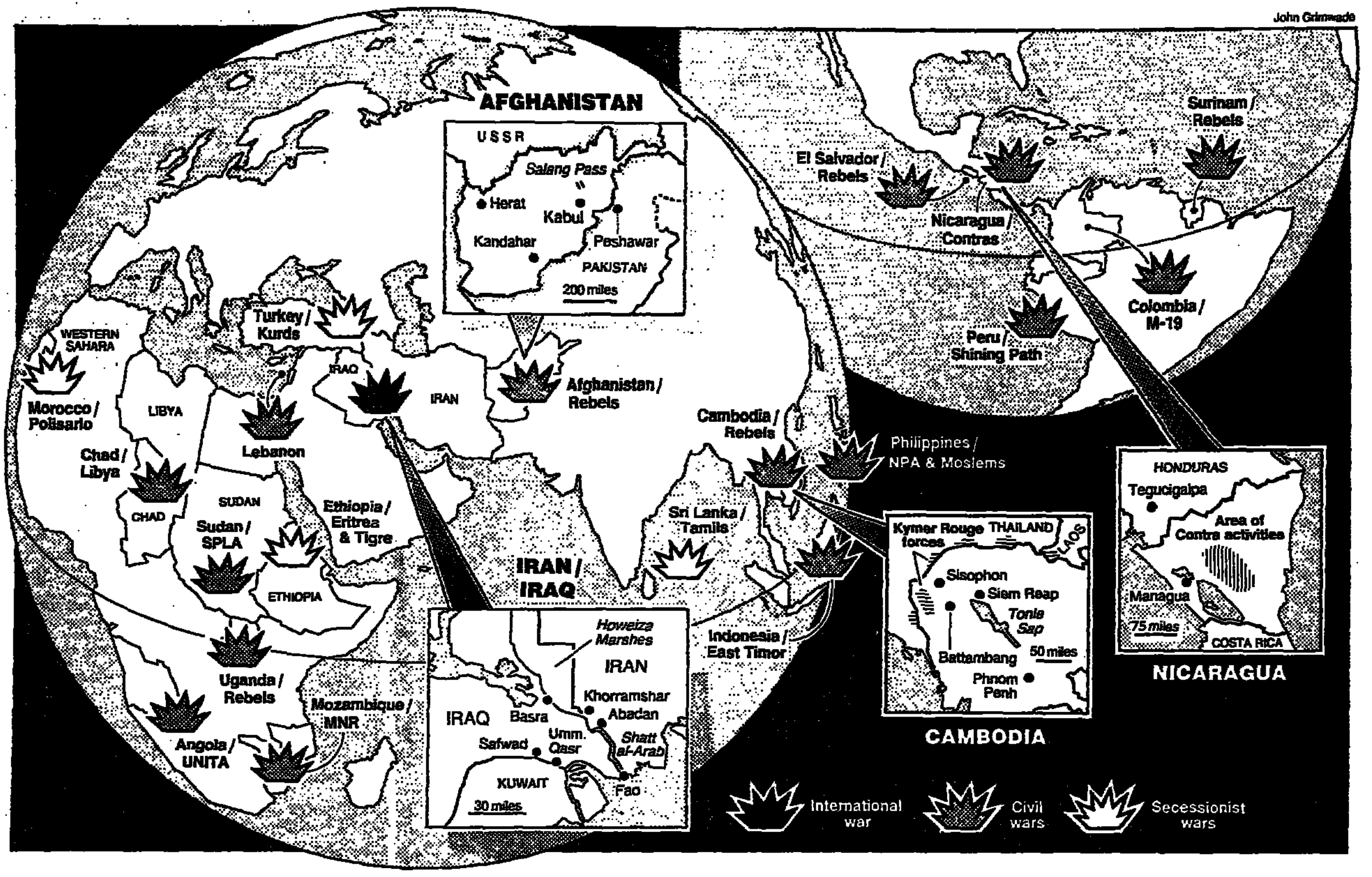
- Western hopes are focused on Afghanistan. Washington and Whitehall believe that Mr Mikhail Gorbachov seriously wishes to withdraw his 110,000 troops. The test will come at talks in Geneva in February.

- The Nicaraguan war is expected to tail off as funds dry up. The revelation that profits on US arms sold to Iran were illegally diverted to the Contras has almost certainly put paid to future funding. Some private US backing is expected, but not enough to threaten President Ortega.

- In Cambodia signs of war-weariness by Vietnam's occupation army have encouraged Western hopes. In most other conflicts expectations are for more of the same. "We do not seem to have learned that war is not the answer", said Major Robert Elliot of the International Institute for Strategic Studies.The major military event, he believes, was the crossing of the Shatt al-Arab waterway by Iranian forces in February. It proved insufficient to change the course of the Iran-Iraq war.

- For the grim record, the one big victory of 1986 was produced in Uganda with the triumph of Yoweri Museveni's National Resistance Army in January. But while peace came to the south, in the north the struggle continues.

John Grimwade



THE GULF

Endless capability for stalemate

By Peter Davenport
Defence Correspondent

Intelligence sources in Whitehall who closely monitor the Iran/Iraq conflict in the Gulf see no real prospect of outright victory for either side and no hope of a negotiated settlement while the rival regimes continue to be headed by President Saddam Hussein and Ayatollah Khomeini.

As 1987 begins, the Gulf War is in its seventh year and analysts believe that the conflict can drag on indefinitely. In the words of one observer: "The conflict has an almost endless capability for stalemate."

It is believed in London that the Iranians have suffered at least one million dead and injured in the war, whilst the Iraqis have taken around 600,000 casualties. Iran's human wave assaults on Iraqi lines have cost them dearly, and although the regime in Tehran has said it intends to send a further 100,000 trained militia to the front for the "final blow" by the end of the Islamic year in March, intelligence sources believe they will barely achieve half that figure.

Although it is likely that the Iranians, by sheer weight of numbers, will continue to score local successes on the ground, there is little sign of any major breakthrough. Poor logistical supplies and effective Iraqi armoured counters seem set to limit any Iranian successes.

And in the air Iraqi war planes remain totally dominant, mounting raids deeper into Iran and against Iranian oil targets further along the Gulf than ever before.

Iran is thought to have two military options it can pursue; to go back to the major offensive attacks which have proved so costly in human lives and risk unpopularity back in the towns and cities as casualties mount, or it can keep up the pressure in the land war with probing assaults hoping to capture "embarrassing" targets they can claim as strategic thereby hoping to create a sufficiently strong anti-war feeling in Iraq to topple President Saddam through internal dissent. But there is little sign of that happening.

Iraq will continue its air attacks on Iranian oil targets in a bid to squeeze the Iranian economy in the hope of forcing Ayatollah Khomeini to the negotiating table.

Iran's continuing problem is in securing a major arms supplier while the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact countries are providing weapons to Iraq. As one analyst in Whitehall said: "Iraq's ability to resist Iranian attacks increases daily as the Iranian's ability to mount such attacks decreases".

Economic observers however have been surprised at Iran's ability to provide funds to buy weapons and to continue the war by cutting back on other essential imports, while the Iraqi balance of payments is said to be "appalling".

Stability in the Gulf remains a key long-term concern to the West and it is realized that there would be further dangers in outright victory for either side in the conflict which could have a major effect on the region's politics and within Opec. To some, the status quo of a stalemated war has less risk than the larger uncertainties and repercussions of resounding victory for one side.

Although the West would act to maintain freedom of shipping through the Straits of Hormuz, experts now say the likelihood of any serious attempt to mine or successfully block the waterway is remote.

The US Navy patrols in the Straits and America has local bases for use by its Rapid Deployment Force. There is also a Royal Navy and French presence in the waters.

But Western concerns about the immediate threat of the Gulf War on oil supplies have receded somewhat during the past year with the glut on world markets considerably weakening the oil weapon.

At least 250,000 Iranians and 150,000 Iraqis have been killed in more than six years of the *Gulf War*.

AFGHANISTAN

Guerrillas hit by new onslaught

From Michael Hamlyn
Peshawar

Afghan Mujahedin sources have reported a successful attack by Soviet and Afghan government forces on one of their supposedly secure base areas close to the border with Pakistan.

The Afghan Islamic Press, a Mujahedin-run agency, described a recent 18-day bombardment of a base built into the mountain of Maro in Nangahar province, causing the guerrillas to withdraw.

The incident is typical of the more vigorous policy towards the rebels being adopted by the Russian army of occupation and its Afghan allies.

Inspired perhaps by a renewed vigour from the Afghan Government, which itself drew strength from a change in leadership in May, government forces have made increased efforts to seal the passes into neighbouring Pakistan, increased the "triple ring of steel" around the major cities and been successful in attacking Mujahedin bases.

They also developed still further the technique of using helicopters to land small units of elite troops, including the Spetznaz special forces, into battle zones to strike hard and retreat quickly. The armour-plated Hind Mi-24 helicopter has proved a valuable weapon.

Government forces won the battle for the western city of Herát, even though rebel groups from other provinces sent reinforcements.

The Mujahedin bases in the narrow defiles around Jawara in the eastern province of Paktika were, until this year, thought to be immune to attack. A concerted assault in 1985 was repelled, but the beginning of 1986 again saw them under severe pressure and at least one major base was captured.

However, despite the "ring of steel" defences built around the main cities, Mujahedin have continued to operate — though with difficulty — in the capital of Kábul.

NICARAGUA

Contras turn to soft targets

From Alan Tomlinson, Cañas Bravas, Boaco

Six months to a day after US-backed Contras attacked this remote co-operative farming community, killing five of its members, the rebels have struck again leaving five more people dead, mainly women and children.

The latest raid is one of several recent attacks on lightly defended farms in the central mountains of Boaco and Chontales which remain the last Contra stronghold in the fading rebel war.

Most of the Contra forces have been pushed out of the northern highlands into their Honduran bases, allowing tens of thousands of Sandinista soldiers to form a defensive cordon along the border.

The army says only about 2,000 rebels remain inside Nicaragua, harried by its troops into ineffective marauding bands capable only of attacking soft targets like the Isidro Sotelo co-operative here at Cañas Bravas, 80 miles northeast of Managua.

In the early hours of Saturday the farm was reduced to ashes in a typical Contra raid. The men watched helplessly, pinned down in their guard posts, as the main rebel force sprayed the wooden shacks with automatic fire.

A woman and her 12-year-old son were riddled with bullets in one hut. A six-year-old girl died in the arms of her wounded mother in another. A man and a woman also died and four others were wounded before soldiers from a nearby village came to the rescue.

Two men and three children died in the earlier raid here on June 27.

Apart from the death toll, the attack added another few digits to the rising balance sheet of economic damage over the past five years.

The Government puts the value of burned farms and lost agricultural production at $518 million (£352 million) — two years of Nicaragua's dwindling exports. More than half the annual budget is being ploughed into the war and a quarter of a million peasants have been moved out of farms in combat zones.

Resettlement projects have also robbed the Contras of their important social base among the coffee growers of northern Jinotega province.

Of the 17,000 people who have died in the fighting since 1981, the army says 12,300 were Contras, a third of them killed this year. The Nicaraguan Defence Minister, Señor Humberto Ortega, said last week the rebels now number no more than 6,000 men.

The Contras say they have more than twice as many fighters, yet they have not mounted a single offensive of any significance inside Nicaragua since October, 1985.

The Contras' military problems have now been compounded by new political worries. They are concerned that the alleged diversion to them of profits from US arms sales to Iran may have destroyed hopes that American aid for their cause will continue.

CAMBODIA

Struggle nobody is winning

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Almost the only thing certain about the war in Cambodia is that nobody is winning it. After eight years, the military conflict is no nearer a result and neither Vietnam's occupation army nor the resistance appears capable of knocking the other out of the fight.

Although Vietnamese forces control most of the country, including every city, town and airfield, resistance guerrillas are spreading their operations into more areas. Intelligence analysts say, however, that they are making no real military progress as their attacks are aimed chiefly at civilian targets: railways, roads, bridges and local government offices.

They are doing enough, though, to force Vietnam to keep a 150,000-strong army in Cambodia. The Cambodian Government still cannot stand alone and Vietnam's declared plan to remove all its troops by 1990 now seems out of the question.

Since the Vietnamese blitzkrieg swept across Cambodia in less than a month in January, 1979, the Phnom Penh Government, led by President Heng Samrin, has been trying to create an army to take over the campaign against the resistance. But even now it has no more than 40,000 men in the ranks, and the loyalty of most of them is suspect. Russian military advisers, and training in the Soviet Union for some officers and even NCOs have produced few results so far.

Significant numbers of government soldiers have deserted to join Prince Sihanouk's National Army and others have surrendered themselves to the Thai Army on the border.

The resistance have between 50,000 and 60,000 armed men, more than half of those with the communist Khmer Rouge, who are better trained and disciplined than the non-communist groups — the Sihanoukists and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front. They have adequate weapons and other equipment.

- **TOKYO:** The surprising revamp of Vietnam's Communist Party leadership might have seemed heresy to Ho Chi Minh, but there is no sign that his heirs are going to rethink his design for influence over Laos and Cambodia (David Watts writes).

The political report of the party's sixth congress earlier reaffirmed the "special relationship" with the countries of Indochina, and those closely involved with the execution of military and political policy there have been promoted.

EAST AFRICA

25 years on and still fighting

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Africa's longest-running guerrilla war, in Eritrea, has now been going on for more than 25 years. The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), the biggest of several guerrilla groups, holds most of the countryside in an area stretching from the Sudan border to the Red Sea in northern Ethiopia.

The 800,000 refugees living on the Sudan side of the border are an irritation to the Ethiopian Government — especially so since the Sudan threatens to encourage the guerrillas in Eritrea and the adjoining Tigre region in retaliation for Ethiopian support for the rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

After years of hostility between Ethiopia and Somalia, there are encouraging signs that both sides are ready to talk peace. Ethiopia has not forgotten the 1977/78 war in the Ogaden desert when Somali troops captured large areas before being repulsed with Cuban and Soviet assistance.

Another guerrilla war, in northern Uganda, is worrying President Museveni, who took power last January. Soldiers of the former Ugandan Army are attacking his forces, with much support from the local people.

VIOLENT CONFLICT FROM COLOMBIA TO KURDISTAN

One truce and an earthquake managed to silence the guns

By Nicholas Beeston

SOUTH AMERICA:

The running of **Colombia**'s main left-wing guerrilla organization, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (Farc), in May's general election and its resulting representation in the Senate and Congress signalled an improvement for the country's security prospects in 1986.

To July, Amnesty International accused paramilitary death squads of killing 600 people

In **Peru** Western analysts are still baffled by the aims of the country's leading guerrilla group, Shining Path, whose declared goal is to restore the Inca empire and impose a Maoist state.

Since 1983 the Andean guerrillas have killed more than 9,000 people, and Western intelligence sources believe there is growing evidence linking them with the country's drug dealers.

Shining Path has kept up its campaign against Lima but suffered a severe setback when more than 200 of its jailed members were killed by guards in prison riots in June.

One conflict which is likely to deteriorate this year is the bloody jungle war being waged in the tiny state of **Surinam**, between the leftist government of Lieutenant-Colonel Desi Bourtese and the Surinamese Liberation Army led by Mr Ronny Brunswijk.

The fighting in the former Dutch colony has already forced thousands of refugees to flee into neighbouring French Guiana.

CENTRAL AMERICA:

After a fierce battle in the summer and stalled peace negotiations in early autumn, the guns in **El Salvador** were finally silenced in October when an earthquake killed 6,000 people.

A total of 1,725 people were killed in 1986 as the war between the Army and the left-wing rebels of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) entered its seventh year.

With the largely successful purge of the right-wing death squads from the military the chances for peace appear more promising, but the Government has made it clear that its primary task this year will be to rebuild the capital and parts of the country destroyed by the earthquake.

AFRICA:

The protracted civil war in **Chad** suddenly showed signs of movement in 1986 when a major division emerged within the Tripoli-backed rebel camp, and Libyan troops in the north attacked their former Chadian allies.

Fighting in the Tibesti mountains continued into the new year with part of the estimated 8,000-strong Libyan force trying to dislodge guerrillas loyal to former rebel leader Mr Goukouni Oueddi.

The war between **Morocco** and **Algerian**-backed Polisario Front guerrillas over the former Spanish colony of **Western Sahara** is entering its twelfth year, with no end in sight.

By contrast the post-independence bush war in **Mozambique** between the Marxist Frelimo Government and Renamo rebels backed by **South Africa**, was anything but remote in 1986.

With the imposition of sanctions by the West against South Africa. Pretoria has retaliated by launching its own economic war against the black-ruled frontline states and bolstering its support for anti-government rebels.

Mozambique, which suffered the loss of President Machel in an air crash in October, has come off worst among the black states and the 1984 Nkomati non-aggression pact with Pretoria has been repeatedly violated and left in tatters.

Tens of thousands of Mozambican refugees, fleeing the fighting and famine in the country's northern provinces, escaped into neighbouring Malawi.

The Maputo Government has gained the sympathy of the West in its war, and former SAS troopers and serving British soldiers are training Mozambican troops. But President Joaquim Alberto Chissano's Government, with limited resources, will be hard pressed to alter the military balance in its favour.

His counterpart in **Angola**, President dos Santos, faces a similar but more stable conflict which involves the US, the **Soviet Union** and the question of **Namibia** independence from **South Africa**.

In spite of receiving arms from South Africa and the US, the Unita rebel movement has made few inroads into the areas of northern Angola controlled by the Marxist MPLA Government.

ASIA:

The 60-day truce in the **Philippines**, which has imposed an uneasy ceasefire in the 17-year-old guerrilla war between government forces and the communist New People's Army (NPA), is set to be tested to its limit in the first month of 1987.

The ceasefire accord, agreed on December 10, is intended to extend five days after Filipinos vote on whether to accept the draft constitution of President Aquino. Already there are signals from from the NPA and senior military figures that a peaceful solution based on compromise may not be enough to satisfy the hardline communist elements or sections of the Army.

Hopes for a settlement by the new year to **Sri Lanka**'s ethnic crisis have faded, with some Colombo leaders saying the peace plan put up by the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, expected concessions only from the Sri Lanka side and not from the five Tamil guerrilla groups.

MIDDLE EAST:

Kurdish guerrilla forces fighting against **Iran** and **Iraq** for a semi-autonomous **Kurdistan** improved their military position in 1986 by taking advantage of the regional effects of the Gulf War.

Of the two factions of the Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) — one backed by Iran and the other by Iraq — the Iraqi half reported the most significant gains in the final months of 1986 by taking control of large stretches of mountainous territory from Iraqi troops.

China blames Taiwan

Open-air debate leaves students unsure of future demonstrations

PEKING (AFP) – Hundreds of Peking University students braved an icy New Year's Eve for an open-air debate on whether to demonstrate today in defiance of an official ban backed by threats of severe punishment.

Young men were seen urging a crowd of about 300 students in the centre of the campus to drop plans for the New Year's Day assembly in Tiananmen Square, but they were openly heckled with shouts of "Lies!" and "Don't listen to him!"

Meanwhile, China accused Taiwan yesterday of using secret agents to foment rebellion on the mainland, as an official campaign to end a spate of student protests intensified.

The Communist Party newspaper, the *People's Daily*, said Taiwan's Voice of Free China radio had ordered its agents to select a suitable time to take action and use various means to encourage and aid young students to participate in the demonstrations.

Chinese television devoted nearly 10 minutes of its evening news to reports discouraging protests and to interviews with people from many walks of life urging students to stick to their books.

Mr Xue Deyun, an unemployed worker arrested on Monday night here and charged with infiltrating student ranks to stir up trouble, was shown in police custody, as were three Nanjing workers charged with causing violence during recent protests in the eastern Chinese city.

Students at Peking University said they were unable to identify the speakers who had challenged nearby wall posters calling for the New Year's Day protest and had urged that students instead request meetings with leaders of the National People's Congress.

Many students who advocated marching said they sought only to push for a faster pace of reform in China. The crowd subsequently broke into small groups.

The *People's Daily*, quoting a Peking city spokesman in a report carried by most leading Chinese newspapers, said: "Those who dare to make trouble in Tiananmen Square will be severely punished."

Any attempt to eliminate the Communist Party leadership will be crushed, the unidentified spokesman was quoted as saying.

Despite the massive official campaign, the wall posters stayed up at Peking University.

It will be an assembly rather than a march, one poster said in an apparent effort to persuade students that the protest would not be illegal under temporary regulations imposed last week which ban protests in four key places, including the vicinity of the Great Hall of the People alongside the square.

Many of the posters urged students to support the reformist faction of the Chinese leader, Deng Xiaoping, against conservatives opposing reform.

Analysts said the Chinese Government had used a deft combination of threats and persuasion in trying to cool a spate of student protests urging greater democracy and freedom, specifically freedom of the press, that has touched at least 14 cities since early December.

The call by student activists for an assembly in Tiananmen Square in violation of new city regulations represents a test of will between the Government and leaders of the movement, the analysts said.

● **TAIPEI:** The Taiwan Government information office, the Foreign Ministry and the ruling Kuomintang party all declined comment on Peking's claim that Taiwanese agents on the mainland were fomenting student unrest (Reuter reports).

Spain abortion ruling defied

From Richard Wigg Madrid

Spain's private clinics heard from Señor Fernando Ledesma, the Justice Minister, yesterday that they could continue to perform abortions, ignoring a decision of the Supreme Court which has suspended a Government decree authorizing the operations.

The six-week-old decree, a liberalization measure, licensed clinics with approved conditions.

The Socialist Government says that it will now seek suspension of the Supreme Court decision. The court had listened sympathetically to a plea by Family Action, a Spanish Catholic anti-abortion group.

Señor Ledesma, who admitted that the situation is confused, is facing yet another embarrassment in the Government's uphill battle against Spanish conservative forces.

Amid right-wing jubilation yesterday, members of the Pro Vita association likened Señor Ledesma, who is a practising Catholic, to Herod, and accused him of another "slaughter of the innocents".

The Government estimates that some 30,000 abortions are needed each year, while admitting that the law so far has permitted fewer than 300.

The law was originally approved in February 1983 and passed last year. It permits abortions, which were banned entirely during the Franco era, only in three strictly limited cases: when the mother's life is in danger; rape; and when the foetus shows signs of malformation.

The Supreme Court, under Judge Pera Verdaguer, aged 67, who is well known for his opposition to abortion, upheld on Tuesday the anti-abortion group's plea that the decree "risks prejudicing the life of those conceived but not yet born".

The court rejected the Health Ministry's case that the decree followed the guidelines on abortions established in 1979 by the World Health Organization and sided with Spain's College of Medicine, which opposes the guidelines.

Meanwhile, Spanish feminist groups, public health organizations and other groups advocating the right to abortion under the public health system want last year's law abandoned in favour of one closer to those in most other European countries. They are threatening serious street protests.

A young pedlar on Manila's seaside boulevard goes through his repertoire to drum up business in paper horns, hats and other paraphernalia available for today's New Year's Day celebration.

Minister quits over ID cards

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz, Israel's ultra-orthodox Interior Minister, yesterday handed in his resignation rather than agree to issue a Jewish identity card to a woman convert to Judaism.

In December the High Court ruled that the ministry be not allowed to add the word "converted" to the identity cards of those not born of Jewish mothers. Rabbi Peretz had tried to bring in this ruling after Mrs Shoshana Miller, an American converted by a reform rabbi, insisted she had the legal right to an identity card classifying her simply as a Jew.

In his letter of resignation Rabbi Peretz said a reform conversion was not carried out according to Holy Law and in fact posed a threat to the survival of the Jewish people because it would lead to intermarriage with orthodox Jews.

Mrs Miller returned to the US after winning the test case for an identity card indistinguishable from that held by the most observent of Jews.

The orthodox community is waiting anxiously to see how many other reform or conservative converts try to follow her example.

Howe begins four-nation tour

Bogotá talks on drugs threat

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe today begins a four-nation tour, which includes the first official visit to Colombia by a Foreign Secretary.

His first stop will be Barbados, where he will meet Mr Errol Barrow QC, the Prime Minister, and Senator Cameron Tudor, the Foreign Minister.

He then flies to Bogotá, where a senior Western diplomat said the Colombian Government faces "the greatest challenge since the murder of Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla in 1984".

Three competing guerrilla movements and the world's most powerful cocaine barons have laid siege to Colombia's resilient democracy in a struggle that caused an estimated 1,200 deaths in the first six months of 1986.

Colombia's extradiction treaty with the United States has proved its most effective weapon against drug rings, and President Barco has resisted attempts to water it down. As the risk of being deported to face trial in the United States grows, some smugglers are turning to Britain, which has no extradition treaty.

So far only small numbers of Colombians have been intercepted in Europe, but Sir Geoffrey is expected to discuss the situation with President Barco and Mr Julio Londono Paredes, the Foreign Minister.

His visits to Colombia and Mexico come just before an attempt by the Contadora group, of which both are members, to negotiate peace in Central America. Sir Geoffrey wishes to encourage the four nations (Mexico, Colombia, Panama and Venezuela) and their four supporters (Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Peru) to find a regional solution to the Nicaraguan war.

Both in Bogotá and Mexico City, where he will meet President Miguel de la Madrid, Sir Geoffrey will explain Britain's opposition to a United Nations resolution in November calling for unconditional talks between Britain and Argentina over the Falklands dispute.

While in Mexico from January 3 to 6 he will ask how a $6 billion (£4.1 billion) commercial loan package negotiated in October is being used. The package forms a key element in IMF arrangements which require Mexico to meet specific economic targets.

While Mexico's performance is seen as a test case for IMF rescues of this type, Sir Geoffrey will have a specific British interest in mind. There is some concern in Whitehall about the exposure of British banks participating in the latest loan.

Sir Geoffrey's last stop will be in Bermuda, where he will meet Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State.

28 killed in floods sweeping Brazil

Rio de Janeiro (Reuter) – At least 28 people have been killed and 6,500 left homeless in torrential rain sweeping across south-eastern Brazil.

Rivers on the border between Minas Gerais and São Paulo states burst their banks and three towns were under water, including Lavrinhas, in São Paulo, where 11 people died during the weekend.

Civil defence officials said 16 people had died in Minas Gerais since the rains started in early December.

Doctors talk by satellite

San Francisco (AP) – Soviet and US doctors have begun videophone exchanges they hope will lead to a sharing of ideas on birth methods, prenatal and infant care.

Doctors and new mothers in Moscow and San Francisco hospitals spoke on a 45-minute satellite connection that featured live video pictures on a small television screen attached to a telephone.

China visits

Peking (Reuter) – The Chinese Premier, Mr Zhao Ziyang, will visit five East European countries this year and three East European leaders will go to China next year.

Jeddah talks

Jeddah (AP) – The Filipino Muslim rebel leader, Mr Nur Misuari, and officials from the Manila Government are due for talks on ending the 14-year Muslim revolt in the southern Philippines.

9th victim

Bonn – An explosion and fire at a Bavarian winter sports hotel last Saturday claimed its 9th victim yesterday when an 18-year-old man died of serious burns.

The worst cut

Lagos (Reuter) – Nigeria's underground cutlery industry is to lose a cheap and unofficial raw material source – the metal barriers on federal highways are to be replaced by concrete.

Both sides of this dispute want the British Tommy to stay on in region

In the second of two articles on Belize, **Rodney Tyler** describes the surprising international reaction to the continued presence of British troops.

In a part of the world where wars have broken out over things as trivial as football matches it was necessary to handle with kid gloves the incident of the flag at Hunting Cay on Guatemalan Independence weekend.

The eight British soldiers, led by a CSM of the Queen's Regiment, found themselves standing behind the tiny island's one Belizean policeman, who doubles as immigration officer, while an inflamed mob of several hundred drunken Guatemalan revellers lowered the Belizean flag and hoisted their national colours in its place.

After a good deal of shouting the mob was persuaded to remove the flag, but as the party reached its peak they returned and again ran it up the pole. Wisely, the sergeant-major decided to wait until after dark before pulling it down again, anticipating that the perpetrators of this diplomatic provocation would soon be deep in alcohol-induced sleep.

No doubt many of them would have liked a lie-in to sleep off the effects of the revelry; but, as a reminder that they were visitors to Belize territory, they were woken none too gently at first light by the roar of four RAF Harriers carrying out a "routine exercise" at treetop height.

There were no further attempts to interfere with the flagpole. Guatemalan authorities were apparently amazed at the speed and relative good nature of the response to the incident, and apologized without hesitation.

When a settlement to the long-standing territorial dispute with Belize is at last on the cards, the Guatemalans want nothing to rock the boat – particularly in the very area, the Sapodilla Cays, likely to be central to that settlement.

But there was another reason for the reasonable reaction. They, like almost every other interested party, want the British forces in Belize to be part of that settlement: surprisingly, not that the Britons should leave but that we should stay.

It comes as a shock to visit a distant country where Britain has 2,000 servicemen defending it against threat from a neighbour and to find not only total unanimity in the welcome for those troops, but also to find that the neighbour-aggressor also wants them there.

The future of Belize

Part 2

Given a settlement next year and a phased hand-over of defence responsibility to the Belize Defence Force, which is being trained by British instructors to be self-sufficient by the 1990s, the logical Whitehall move would be to pull out the troops.

Belize would very much like the Britons to stay – not so much because going would weaken its defences but because it would weaken its economy: Britons in Belize account for 18 per cent of foreign earnings.

But the Guatemalan response to such a move is the most interesting. They would like the British troops to stay because their vigilance along the 100 miles of border with the remote Peten region, once effective in deterring them from invading, now prevents their own anti-government guerrillas from operating from the dense Belizean jungle.

They are more than likely to ask as one term of the settlement that the Britons stay on.

Mexico, El Salvador, Colombia and Jamaica would also like the Britons to stay, because each is profoundly grateful for the speed, dedication, expertise and willingness with which British forces have responded to calls for help in the face of natural disasters in the past year alone.

The Americans would like the British to stay because of their contribution to the stability of the region.

And the Cubans would like the British to stay, because we are not the Americans.

"We can make a very good case for the continuation of the British presence," Mr Manuel Esquivel, the Belize Prime Minister, told me. "They are a foreign force in an independent country. It is unique that they should not only be welcomed by that country but also by everyone in the neighbourhood too. They are not seen as a threat to anyone. It does the world of good for the British image.

Mr Esquivel admits that Belize could never afford to pay for the British to stay – although the actual cost is less than £10 million a year. There is a somewhat depressing assumption that once the Guatemalan issue is settled Whitehall will want to pull the plug on cost grounds alone.

Concluded.

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THE ARTS

The eyes of the beholder

Special occasions bring out the worst in television programmers. Whether this is because a larger or smaller audience than usual is expected remains unclear, but the result appears to be a deluge of favourite films (e.g. films we have already seen – often) and compilation comedy shows. For this reason alone Channel 4 get points for good intentions with their screening of last night's documentary, *Beauty*.

TELEVISION

Subtitled *The Quest for Beauty*, the trail was filled with all manner of trials including exercise classes, plastic surgery, tattoo parlours, strip joints and visits to Vidal Sassoon. Why on earth that walking testament to the face-lift should have been roped in remains a mystery, particularly as his main contribution was to remark that one unwary client possessed a large chin, "in a beautiful way of course".

Overall, remarkably little of the commodity in question appeared on the screen. Marie Helvin, a model, was left alone to represent the voice of the beautiful and she rather let the side down by explaining that she was just a plain girl who owned a lot to make-up, while her former husband, the photographer David Bailey, was wheeled on to perform in the role he has now made his own – female connoisseur and teasing chauvinist.

Quite what the programme was trying to achieve became increasingly obscure as time wore on. The 90 minutes were crammed with ways of seeing both male and female beauty; but, after psychological, physical, fashionable, clinical, commercial and sexual approaches to the matter had been made, the conclusion drawn was that "when people love one another, there is *someone beautiful for everybody*".

Appropriate as this might be to the spirit of *bonhomie* that one associates with New Year's Eve, it was not quite enough to justify the trouble and expense involved in producing a film which visited male strippers in New York, a Hollywood model agency and a tropical fashion shoot when the male (again) model was sent up a palm tree with the order "nipples to the wind".

Alexandra Shulman

DANCE

The Snow Queen
Sadler's Wells

The Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet season, which opened on Tuesday night, is the first the company has played at its home theatre since this time last year. Meanwhile, the Sadler's Wells studios have been the launching-pad for tours of America, Israel and the length and breadth of Britain.

The year gone by has seen the fortieth anniversary of the company's first independent performance, an event to be duly, if belatedly, celebrated in the next three weeks with the revival of some of the ballets created at the Wells by Ashton, Cranko and MacMillan, as well as by continuing the policies which have produced more than 100 new works specially for this company.

But before that, to meet the holiday mood, there are the first showings in this theatre of David Bintley's *The Snow Queen*. This ballet is consciously and unashamedly popular entertainment and was welcomed by a full house on Tuesday. Bintley has made some further improvements since the ballet had its London première at Covent Garden last summer, principally by drastically shortening the prologue and eliminating the bridging scene between that and the main part of Act I.

This had the benefit of starting in on the plot straightaway, and letting the Snow Queen (Samira Saidi, compellingly beautiful) be the first character on stage so that she dominates from the start. It also reduces the pranks of her jester, the White Dwarf. However well Graham Lustig plays him, the sinisterly comic effect he creates in the carnival scene is dissipated by some of his other entries, and one could bear to see less of him in the final scene too.

Some of the solos seem slightly cramped on this stage, but there is a benefit in more convincing bustle for the crowd scenes. Terry Bartlett's designs, with an added frontcloth, look good. Bramwell Tovey, conducting, has only himself to blame if his generally effective score, adapted from Mussorgsky, sometimes sounded raucous.

John Percival

Faces fit to light up all our futures

Times critics make their personal choice of individual promise likely to create an even bigger splash in 1987

The stuff of stardom: Joanne Whalley, waifishly comic in *No Surrender*, and Paul Hogan, from lager commercials to the appeal of *Crocodile Dundee*

CINEMA: David Robinson

Belief in a British cinema renaissance is almost revived by two films shortly to be released. Both confirm the exceptional gifts their directors will reveal to a wider public in 1987.

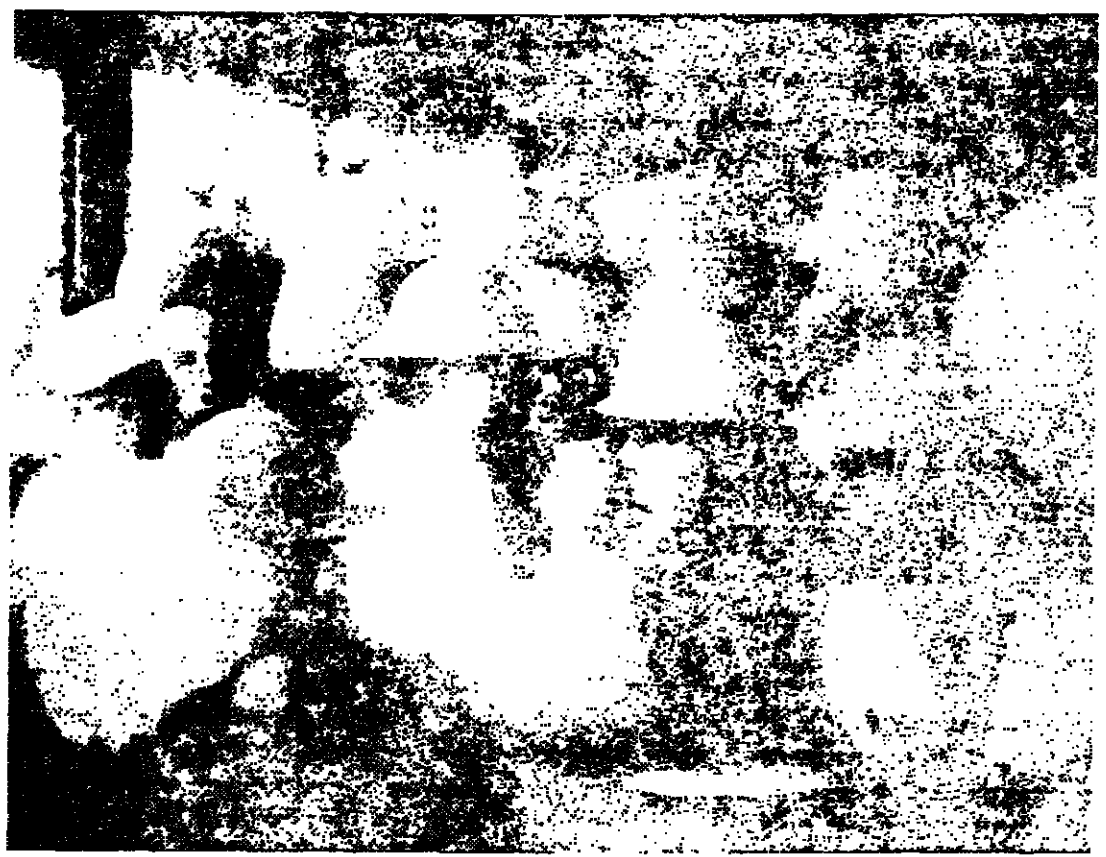
Coincidentally, both **Bill Douglas** and **Terence Davies** have previously made their names with harrowing autobiographical trilogies. Douglas's latest film, *Comrades*, the story of the Tolpuddle Martyrs, mingles hesitation and self-indulgence with an inspired vision hardly paralleled in our national cinema. Davies's *Distant Voices* uses a formal, Expressionist style as distinctive as any painter's to capture the essence of working-class life in the years around the Second World War.

The stuff of future stardom was clearly indicated during the old year in the performances of **Joanne Whalley**, waifishly comic in *No Surrender*, **Gabriel Byrne** in David Drury's *Defence of the Realm* and **Tilda Swinton** in Derek Jarman's *Caravaggio*.

Perhaps the single most outstanding new talent emerging in 1986 was that of the director **Bill Sherwood**, who is currently planning a comedy set in contemporary New York and Rome. He made his feature début, and last year's great impression, as writer-director of the independently-produced *Parting Glances*. The film was set in New York Yuppie country, and centred on a homosexual couple and their best friend, who was dying of Aids. The setting and the ostensible subject were less significant, though, than Sherwood's ability to explore and expose human sentiments and relationships of all sorts and degrees, and the dexterity with which he deployed his derisory budget to give his film all the style and gloss – and, in the outcome, the box-office appeal – of a major studio production. Born in Washington in 1952, Sherwood originally intended to be a musician.

His plan to make a comedy is, in fact, just one of the signs that the art is again on the upturn. Martin Scorsese's lovely New York farce *After Hours* introduced a young writer of abundant promise, **Joseph Minion**. In **Nadia Tass**, who made the daft, deft and charming *Malcolm*, Australia launched a fine, natural comedy director.

Also from Australia, **Paul Hogan** – a native character-comedian transplanted from television and lager commercials to the movies in *Crocodile Dundee* – is proving to have a phenomenal and lucrative international appeal.



Surge of American energy in *The Bar and Grill* by Bill Jacklin, poised to make a transatlantic impression

PAINTING: John Russell Taylor

The British artist poised to take the biggest leap forward in 1987 is surely **Bill Jacklin**. For the last few months he has been painting in New York, and the surge of energy and invention provoked by the new sights of Chelsea, New York, so different from Chelsea, London, is certain to make him a name to conjure with on both sides of the Atlantic when he has his first major New York show in February.

Two other painters who have had shows in the West End in 1986 which unequivocally indicate that they are moving confidently onward and upward in 1987 are **Andrzej Jackowski and John D. Edwards**: the myth-soaked, mysterious canvases of Jackowski are taking on a greater depth and intensity all the time, while Edwards's richly coloured, landscape-based works, sometimes one side of the abstraction/representation line, sometimes the other, contrive to keep us enjoyably guessing about which way he will tend next.

Both are painters who make rather than follow fashions.

The London-Chinese painter and photographer **Ying Yeung Li** has turned recently to making exquisitely and sometimes dazzlingly coloured hangings in knotted wool which, like his paintings, hover between East and West as well as between representation and abstraction – difficult to disentangle when the subjects are wind and water and the unceasing flow of things.

And finally, to watch closely in 1987, is **Richard Eurich** – because, now pushing 84, he is still painting as energetically and as well as ever: the only senior Academician who clearly still has surprises in store.

Bringing character to vivid life: Peter Abegglen, Trinidad Sevillano

DANCE: John Percival

There is no gamble involved in saying that **Jonathan Cope** is sure to be conspicuous among the Royal Ballet's young dancers during 1987, as he has already been picked to dance the first performance of Anthony Dowell's new production of *Swan Lake*. Tall, with striking features, he shares with his contemporary **Phillip Broomhead** (another *name to watch*) a *quality* of daring in his solos which is rare at Covent Garden.

But Cope has already danced leading roles. *Looking for an outsider* who has the quality to make a mark, the Royal Ballet name to remember is that of a recent recruit, **Peter Abegglen**. He is quite a different type from Cope: small, nimble, and on the strength of just one role, Puck in *The Dream*, he has the gift of bringing a character to vivid life through his dancing.

In London Festival Ballet, similarly, **Trinidad Sevillano** is almost too obvious a choice: at 18 she is already a dancer of irresistible individuality, style and drama, outstanding in works as diverse as Ashton's *Romeo and Juliet* and Balanchine's *Symphony in C*. Although her performances are likely to be among the most exciting dancing to be seen this year, let me again pick a young man just beginning to make his mark.

Martin James stood out in Festival's corps de ballet even before *he began to move into small solo* parts during recent months. Now he is beginning to get leading roles. Tall, dark and good looking, he outdances several of the company's better known names in the new *Nutcracker*.

In London Contemporary Dance Theatre, two or three young women have just begun to attract notice. Among them, my money is on **Brenda Edwards**, who not only dances fluently and with zest but adds a spice of individual character even *when dancing in the ensemble. It* will be surprising if 1987 does not bring her bigger chances; even more surprising if she does not respond to them with eager flair.

Twice as real as anyone else on the stage: Imogen Stubbs

THEATRE: Irving Wardle

Last April the RSC simultaneously launched a new theatre, the Swan, and a new leading actress, **Imogen Stubbs**. For those who have not seen her, that term needs clarifying. Miss Stubbs does not look like a *leading actress. She looks like a kid* who has somehow wandered in among a group of actors and decided to live there for a bit: twice as real, in *other words*, as anyone else on the stage.

Her first performance was as the Gaoler's Daughter in *The Two Noble Kinsmen*: a role which could have been written for her, as a thrilling display of no-nonsense reality invading a stale theatrical convention. Here, as later in the season, Stubbs was far too much a robust, mischievous and seductive survivor to have any truck with pathos: even as the Queen in *Richard II* she went *down fighting. If this marks* a limitation in her range, it also defines her star-quality and her power to seize attention. If, in 1987, she extends her vitality and charm into areas of crime and villainy, that will be something worth watching.

So too, I suspect, will the New Year repertory at the Soho Poly Theatre. This little house has made a remarkable recovery from a prolonged period of decline. A sequence of stunningly well cast and designed productions has restored its reputation as a reliable source of good new writing at a time when such sources elsewhere are drying up. This is mainly thanks to the work of its incoming director, Sue Dunderdale, the Poly's best friend since the death *of its founder*, Verity Bargate.

Finally, although their faces will not be on view, a word on the Trestle Theatre Company – a mask-and-mime group of prodigious comic observation and zest, who are now blazing their way through our national institutions. They have already done for hospitals and pubs; see them on weddings and honeymoons (*A Slight Hitch*, Watermans Arts Centre from January 14) before they move on to their next target.

MUSIC: Paul Griffiths

Overnight successes, even overyear successes, are flukes and therefore unpredictable, except as generalities. But those *generalities are plain to see.*

There will, for instance, be a British pianist who has been taken totally for granted but is suddenly hailed as the most extraordinary new arrival since Barry Douglas after winning an international competition. There will be a young conductor who makes his, or just possibly her, name by stepping in at the last moment to take over a performance of Janáček's Glagolitic Mass at the Festival Hall.

There will be, as usual, a Kurt Weill revival, probably associated this time with the production of *Silverlake* at the Camden Festival.

Then, even though the fashion is waning, there will be the names that flash into prominence on account of a centenary. Gluck, who died in *1787*, will be around a lot, and Radio 3 will reveal that he wrote far, far more operas than anyone had dared fear. *The recordings of Artur* Rubinstein, born in 1887, will all be released on compact disc.

Some few brave souls, during the course of a lengthy concert at St John's, Smith Square, will be taught to admire the sacred music of Samuel Scheidt (b. 1587).

Nicholas Snowman, artistic director of the South Bank concert halls, facing brickbats and bouquets as he takes an ever stronger grip on programming policy

More particularly in the coming year, there will be faces which, though not new, have a new effect in musical administration. **John Drummond** will emerge bruised and garlanded from a year that will include his first Prom season and therefore bring him still greater visibility as the BBC's Controller of Music. **Nicholas Snowman**, as he begins to make an impression on South Bank programming, will enjoy the same treatment (and no doubt everybody will continue to agree that four orchestras are too many to be competing for the favours of the Festival Hall audience).

And ink will be spilt about the controversial appointee as Sir John Tooley's successor at Covent Garden.

As for the rest, a middle-*ranking soprano will win* acclaim as a mezzo, or vice versa. The brilliance of the London Sinfonietta will continue to be acknowledged abroad but not at home. Somebody will win the Carl Flesch Violin Competition and not be noticed.

Fairies not so fragile

THEATRE IN PARIS

Le Songe d'une nuit d'été
Comédie Française

Cross-gartered Shakespearian purists will no doubt be dipping their quills into vitriol to address a letter to Jean Le Poulin, the new administrator of the Comédie Française. For the hallowed Maison de Molière, aided and abetted by the Argentine director Jorge Lavelli, has taught Oberon, Titania, Puck and the rest of *Shakespeare's fairy* band to dance the tango, in a daring new French adaptation of *Midsummer Night's Dream*. Those who think that fairies are fragile creatures with gossamer wings are also in for a shock.

According to Lavelli, and the designer Hortense Guillemard, Cobweb and Co are brilliantined chorus-boys in slinky, *floor-sweeping* evening gowns. They are, nonetheless, perfect foils to the silver top-hatted Oberon and his gold *lamé-sheathed* Titania. Puck takes his character cue from a fedora hat, natty braces and correspondent shoes. The Athenians take *theirs* from the frightfully smart upper crust of the Thirties; while the Mechanicals could have been recruited from *a* Marseilles working-men's bistro.

Guillemard's design sets them all down in a sinisterly silvery wood, strung with odd-looking woolly creepers. Instead of a fairy ring, there is a jet-black, highly polished dance-floor. Every now and then this enchanted night-spot is concealed behind a line-up of swinging double doors, reminiscent of those *which* used to grace the ballrooms of the *Come Dancing* Fifties.

In contrast, Stuart Seide's French text takes very few liberties, although it is far from a *mot à mot* translation. Rather, it re-creates the spirit of Shakespeare's inimitable style, carefully restructuring as many of the word-plays as the French *language* will allow. His efforts are particularly rewarding during the scenes with Bottom and the other Mechanicals. There are a number of occasions, however, when Seide's easy-on-the-ear, near-classical poetic *prose is an unhappy bedfellow* for Lavelli's contemporary coupling of anyone-for-tennis Thirties romanticism with the hip-swaying "*come hither*" of Buenos Aires night-life.

Lavelli weaves his *Songe d'été* out of these seemingly disparate threads with *such* dexterity, however, that one hardly questions the incongruity of it all. The swing-door *backdrop serves to define the* acts and to provide Lavelli with the means for some swift-moving direction that en*livens the opening scene's* usually static verbosity. Even when the supposedly invisible Oberon and Puck pull up two designer chairs, to eavesdrop in comfort on the Athenian love-tangles, there is no nagging doubt that they would be better on a gnarled tree-stump, or, heaven forbid, a couple of toadstools.

In fact, one wonders how any previous production ever managed without two, in some scenes four, such chairs. Lavelli moves them around the stage with the sleight of hand of a magician performing an up-market version of Find the Lady. They pop up all over the place: as the excuse for some neat body-play between the lovers, as a languid resting-place for the urbane Theseus (Jean-Luc Boutté) and his aristocratic chums, and the pretext for a superb visual gag when the delightful Hermia (Marianne Epin) sits unknowingly on the invisible Puck's lap.

Richard Fontana as Puck is irresistible. He combines the throwaway grace and agility of a young Fred Astaire – particularly in his opening tap-dance routine – with a rakish mischievousness. When joined by Simon Eine as Oberon he becomes the fall-guy of a spellbinding double act that rivals the best of *Morecambe* and Wise. Lavelli's direction and Eine's interpretation also imbue Oberon with the sort of petulant lasciviousness one looks for, but seldom finds, in the characterization of the Master of Ceremonies in the musical *Cabaret*.

Against this entertaining masculine duo, Christine Fersen has a hard time injecting the same sort of sparkle into Titania, who, despite being decked out like a Folies Bergère *figurante*, comes over as a thigh-slapping principal boy. This *could*, of course, be what Lavelli intends. Titania's bevy of transvestite attendants certainly imply that she is *indeed the* queen of the fairies. The self-conscious tittering of these dancing attendants, however, indicates that *they would* probably be happier if they were defrocked.

Apart from this slightly too false note, Lavelli's imaginative *direction ensures* that no one ever puts his character into suspended animation. More conductor than director, he *orchestrates every gesture*, each syllable of the text. Not one twitch of an eyebrow is gratuitous. Not one elongated *vowel is misplaced*. The large cast exudes the feeling that it knows what it is doing, and why.

This is never more true than during the interplay between the Mechanicals. Seldom has La Française rocked with such belly-laughter as that which greets every exchange between Quince and crew. When concealed beneath the traditional ass's head, Michael Aumont *gives an exemplary but fairly* standard performance as the bewitched Bottom – apart from being able to sink his hands *expressively into a* stylish camel-hair overcoat. Headless, as the bumptious weaver and ham-hero Pyramus, he has the audience legless with laughter. Lavelli's "post-modernist" treatment of the Mechanicals works *exceptionally well, and* is admirably served by a troupe of excellent performers.

As befits such a splendidly executed romp, everyone *lives* happily ever after, dancing into the dawn to the sound of Astor Piazzolla's sensuous in*cidental music*. It is *played* by an authentic-looking tango band, which glides on to the stage at intervals on a conveyor-*belt. Should all this* have Shakespeare turning in his grave, he is more than likely just moving rhyth*mically to the beat.*

Spellbinding double act: Simon Eine (left), Richard Fontana

Diane Hill

PUPPETRY

Angelo
Little Angel

For 25 years a former temperance chapel in Dagmar Passage, off Cross Street, Islington, has been home to John Wright's Little Angel Theatre. London's only permanent puppet troupe celebrates its quarter-century and *Wright's eightieth year with* the revival of *Angelo*, based on a picture-book by Quentin Blake.

Puppets come in three species: marionettes dangling on strings, glove-puppets manipulated from below and rod-puppets handled from behind – often, as here, by puppeteers dressed in black velvet against a black backdrop so that they are seen, when at all, as darting shadows.

The tale of a family of Italian high-wire artistes is perfect for an art-form that can make its heroes balance impossibly on one leg. The secret lies in the number of operators, at least two to each puppet, and, while it may be possible for a very young audience to absorb itself in the story and ignore how it is being shown, for the rest of us the continuing fascination lies in wondering how the stuffed hands and plastic limbs can be made to mimic so nimbly the muscular effort of scrubbing a floor or stepping daintily across a stage.

The heads designed by Lyndie Wright have the innocent appearance of the Quentin Blake originals and the movements capture the typical exuberance of his characters, a sort of outstretched abandon. Some of the voices are wrong for their faces, and I am *doubtful* about the Italian chat, since it is a bright child who will know that *piano* also means quiet. But what stays in *the mind is the visual enchantment*: the intricate acrobatics that must look from backstage like a frantic eight-handed cat's-cradle.

Jeremy Kingston

A CHRISTMAS TREAT
[illegible]
INGMAR BERGMAN'S
masterpiece
AWARDED 4 OSCARS
FANNY AND ALEXANDER 15
"Magnificent"
[illegible]
Exclusive Presentation
from 19 Dec – 15 Jan
[illegible]
3.20 & 7.15 DAILY AT THE
RENOIR
RUSSELL SQUARE TUBE
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Mrs Geldof swears in

Paula Yates sat amid the *post-Christmas debris*, her hair askew, her fingers grubby and her face unadorned by anything other than large, pink National Health spectacles. She wrinkled her nose puckishly and pulled her battered old blue leather jacket tight around herself against the draughts in the *kitchen* of the 12th-century priory in which she lives with her husband, Bob Geldof. Of course, she protested, she wanted to be thought of as a sex symbol. But, of course, she wanted people to take her seriously, too.

Some people are already doing that. The Tory MP, Winston Churchill, sponsor of last year's defunct Obscenity Bill, has written to the chairman of the IBA to complain about the letters with which Tyne Tees Television had elicited from various pop stars the more intimate details of their *private* lives *for* the forthcoming series *Sex with Paula*. And the MP was not to know at that point that the opening sequences will feature the shapely little television presenter on a bed with the pop superstar George Michael.

Miss Yates, predictably enough, is delighted. Particularly so, she said, because the candour she engenders in the pop celebrities reveals the exact opposite of what the Whitehouse brigade might be expecting. "We showed it to the heads of Channel 4 last week. They were so disappointed that there are no scenes of me dancing naked or twirling the tassles that the series' producer had to do one in the viewing room to cheer them up."

This was a joke. It is necessary to spell out the fact with such baldness because Miss Yates complains vehemently that the press, through wilfulness or lack of wit, generally fails to understand when she is making a joke, which she seems to be doing to some extent or other most of the time. Such are the problems of being a funny woman. "Actually, there's nothing in the programmes that you couldn't show to your maiden aunt," she concluded, peppering the sentence with four-letter words which seemed most inappropriate in such a context.

THE TIMES PROFILE

PAULA YATES

But then, perhaps this is the press once again lacking a sufficient sense of irony. Her association with Geldof, whose perfunctory use of bad language was made known to at least two billion people all over the world when Live Aid televised his impassioned four-letter demand *for cash to relieve the famine in* Africa, has not left Miss Yates's vocabulary unscathed. But that is part of what, in the words of Andrea Wonfor, Programme Controller of Tyne Tees Television, gives Paula Yates her authority with today's teenagers and enables her to put across important information which they would not accept from more conventional sources.

Spicy language is not the only mark of a chequered youth which Paula Yates carries. The others are not always as visible as the tattoo she bears at the top of her right arm (it began life as a swooping bluebird but has more recently been tansmogrified into a rather globular fish, of the type to be found in tanks by the windows of Japanese restaurants).

She was born in 1960, the only daughter of Jess Yates, then a film producer, and Heller Toren, a former Bluebell Girl and European movie starlet. It was to prove a glittering but miserable childhood.

"I was deeply unhappy as a child because my mother was never around. Until I was five or six I was looked after by my father. He tried very hard to be good with me but by that age I was already quite disturbed. I was awful at school. I was always ill, with pneumonia or a collapsed lung or something. When I was 11 they sent me to a boarding school. I cried all the time and came bottom in everything. Then after two terms my mother wrote to the school and said I had to be taken away early because I had an *audience with the Pope*. I didn't have, but I knew my mother well enough not to say anything.

"She took me to Spain and put me in school there. She thought Spain would be a nice place to live. I was put into an international school in a class with 15 and 16 year olds. Within a year I had passed my O-levels. I spent the next two years in a beach bunny existence. It was all speedboats and nightclubs and older men. I hope you won't make it sound awful but that's what it was."

Her mid-teens were marred by the scandal which the popular press created when it was discovered that her father was having an affair with a showgirl 31 years younger than he was. "My parents had been separated for more than 10 years and there was nothing unpleasant about the affair." But by this time Jess Yates was presenter of a sickly religious television extravaganza called *Stars on Sunday*, and was nicknamed the Bishop. Paula and her mother were hounded by journalists who claimed they were exposing hypocrisy.

At the age of 17 she moved to London and the newly emerging world of punk. There she attached herself to Bob Geldof with such tenacity that the other members of his rock group, the Boomtown Rats, nicknamed her the Limpet. "I knew he was the one for me from the first moment I saw him, with a fried egg and a holy medal pinned to his chest.

"I spent a year in bed playing the starlet with shortie nighties, kittens, boxes of chocolates, flowery sheets and the lot." Then Geldof told her she had to get up and get a job. "I can't stand people who don't *do* something," he said. "I told her if she could write as funnily as she spoke she could make a living from that."

She began writing a weekly gossip column for *Record Mirror* and found herself rising on the crest of the New Wave as the unknown groups she had befriended turned into pop idols like Duran Duran and Spandau Ballet. She photographed them in their Y-fronts and the resulting volume, *Rock Stars in their Underpants*, was hailed by Andy Warhol as "the greatest work of art in the last decade". "I used a Polaroid so that I could see when I had missed off their heads," the arriviste photographer recalls.

Brian Aris

Punk princess: but beneath the carefully nurtured dizziness there is a disciplined professional

She expanded her writing with regular humorous articles for *Cosmopolitan* magazine and then caused a stir by posing for *Penthouse*, draped naked over the bust of the founder in the Reform Club. The popular press dubbed her "the Princess of Punk" and Tyne Tees Television saw in her the air of containable unpredictability it needed for its new pop programme, *The Tube*.

"They wanted someone dangerous or subversive," but, she confessed, almost as soon as she had been signed up she discovered that she was five months pregnant – "until then I had thought it was wind. Bob got on the phone to them and said that to have a young and pregnant presenter would be really dangerous and subversive, wouldn't it?" Tyne Tees took a deep breath and agreed. Four years later *The Tube*, with Miss Yates, is one of its greatest successes.

Yates is, according to her co-presenter, rock musican Jools Holland, "part of their world. She talks to them like a friend and is sensitive to whether they feel uncomfortable. People feel they can trust her." Gary Kemp of Spandau Ballet says that "she gets a lot out of you because she doesn't take herself too seriously. There's so much cynicism in rock journalism but Paula is not like that, she's just a fan at heart."

She might ask a cheeky question but she never seems vicious, and the technique pays dividends. Miss Yates has twice won the coveted Best Documentary Interview award at the New York Film Festival.

Her last documentary series, *Baby, Baby*, drew plaudits from *health experts for the way it* conveyed information on child-rearing to a youthful audience. "I had never even held a baby until I had Fifi. I wanted to tell people everything I learnt and got from the experience."

BIOGRAPHY

1960: Born April 24, Colwyn Bay
1978: Joins *Record Mirror*
1982: Presents *The Tube* (Tyne Tees Television)
1983: March 31, bears a daughter, Fifi Trixiebelle Geldof
Publishes *Blondes*
1984: *Writes and presents Baby, Baby* series (Channel 4)
1986: June, marries Bob Geldof in Las Vegas, with a blessing in Davington Priory, Kent in August

Her friends say that the birth of Fifi Trixiebelle Geldof has been the single most formative experience in Paula Yates's life. "She is a very good mother, calm, terrifically organized and with great energy," *according to* her friend, the journalist Genevieve Cooper. "She gets up early, takes her daughter swimming, comes back and makes a television programme in the morning, writes in the afternoon and makes sure she is free by the time Fifi comes home from school. When she travels she takes Fifi with her everywhere."

"She may purposefully nurture the image of a wild and dizzy blonde", said another old friend, "but anyone who can look after a child, make TV programmes, model, write magazine articles and books, run two homes, and still have time to sit down and gossip is a very disciplined person."

There have been two other books since then: a children's story, *A Tale of Two Kitties*, for Fifi, and a history of the blonde, studiously researched and written with a rather breathless school-magazine jocularity. Now she is at work on a novel about the poet Chatterton.

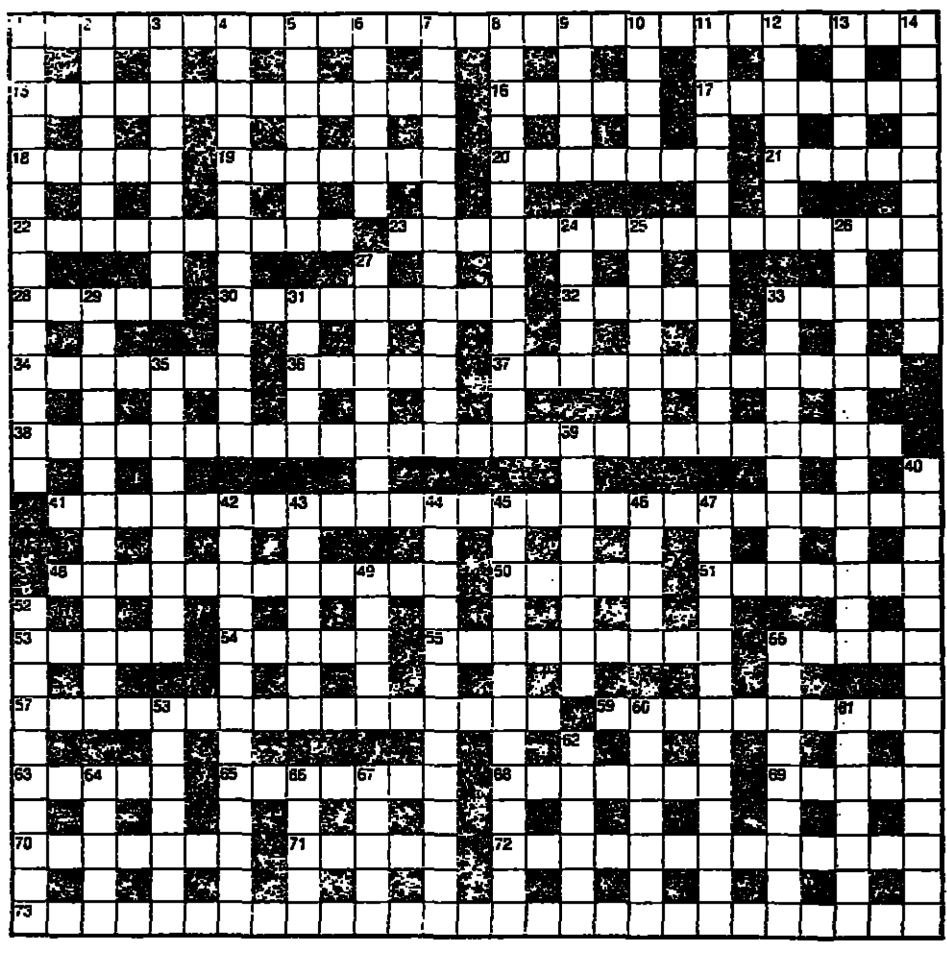
The forthcoming six-part series on sex, scheduled to start on Channel 4 in February, employs *the same technique as the* programmes about having a baby. In it stars like Elton John, George Michael, members of Culture Club, Spandau Ballet, the Eurythmics and Frankie Goes to Hollywood talk about falling in love, the loss of virginity, fidelity, Aids and other matters sexual and emotional.

"We interview a lot of ordinary people too – 15-year-old boys at a Catholic school or a group of women in their twenties in a club. What was interesting was what they shared rather than what divided them. Some of the most intriguing and touching moments are where the vulnerability of the famous people comes out. You see that everybody wants to be loved, everybody gets nervous, everybody is insecure and inhibited. It really gives the lie to the notion of the wild and permissive sex lives of pop stars. It shows they're the same as everyone else."

Paul Vallely

The Times Jumbo Crossword

Prizes of £50 will be given for the first
five correct solutions opened on
Monday January 19. Entries should be
addressed to The Times Jumbo
Crossword Competition, The Times, 1
Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN.
The winners and solution will be
announced on Saturday January 24



Name ....

Address ....

....

ACROSS

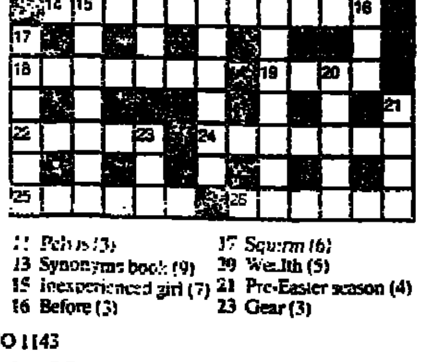
1 Litigation makes for noisier hearing, it's said (7,5,6,4,5).
15 About ancient Nero I compose poetry (pinching bits from others) (13).
16 Bit of information given to Caesar (5).
17 Frank, 14, was Voltaire's hero (7).
18 One Marx hired as revolutionary party official, initially (5).
19 Unfriendly as Gray's view of Eton (7).
20 Such a practical approach is needed in kingdom (7).
21 Power of two oarsmen (5).
22 He produces squibs, so I plan to order about fifth of November (10).
23 Point to a politician lots pay to work for county (16).
28 Friendly – like Christian, for example? (5).
30 Work required urgent attention under tyrant (9).
32 It's secreted to produce confusion in water (5).
33 It could be found in Snakes *and* Ladders (5).
34 Inveigled into gin rummy depart without a penny (7).
36 Robot bringing me record return (5).
37 Fair treatment I am liking (12).
38 Shakespearean characters late for modern play (11,3,12).
41 This force could shortly have some unit changed (5,8,7,6).
48 Lying about awful act, injure 1200 (12).
50 Stud owner loses main quarters in royal house (5).
51 One who conducts inquiries *about race problems* (7).
53 She lost her heart in "David Copperfield" (5).
54 See some war enacted here? (5).
55 Public behind manoeuvre at bridge (9).
56 For example, Indian canoe rebuilt (5).
57 Scott's novel quotation from "Ode to a Nightingale" (6,2,3,5).
59 In which the Prince initially reigns, perhaps (10).
63 Modern paintings with no "character" (2,5).
65 Brave leading article shows the state of some Americans (7).
68 Highball for tough man in pub (7).
69 Grass brought back that's assembled for nest (5).
70 Tribe's territory as central part of Ghana, note (7).
71 Dramatic section for violin (5).
72 Liable to injury? Stress I'd absorbed, prostrate (8-5).
73 City's senior citizen, proverbially safe (3,4,2,12,6).

DOWN

1 Measuring devices for barman in some other local, perhaps (14).
2 Paddy can take so much French drink (7).
3 Oil organization with energy and new ploy in sellers' market (9).
4 Procedural rule to terminate sitting? (8,5).
5 Extremes of explicitness in dreadful strip clubs (7).
6 This farm became no man's land (6).
7 Darling was one of these fair doctors (13).
8 Preparing dramatic takeover, like idle pupil? (13).
9 More or less important actor (5).
10 Times needing no permanent worker, one concludes (5).
11 Settlement in quarters for this type of loan (13).
12 Points two repeated about a lack of colour (7).
13 Spoke, perhaps, about one feeling remorse (5).
14 After second small Scotch, the skill is to appear steady (10).
24 River wave upset Greek author (5).
25 *House filled this way* – Liberal admission? (7).
26 One end altered, another end not fixed (13).
27 Actual final letter about one produced some money (8).
29 What's needed to make MP Prime Minister? (13).
31 Mythical god takes in half-crazy heathen (5).
33 Diamond, for example, to assign to European centre (9).
35 Arranged pact with Henry V's government (9).
39 Overwhelm one female in order to reveal age (8).
40 Dot, perhaps? Making one over here (7,7).
42 A bit Olympic, it could be the basis of agreement (13).
43 Second article from Near East is most imminent (7).
44 Write it to a T – I have officially approved (13).
45 Searcher for pet food with no success, overall (6,7).
46 Domineering type, upstart in Northern city (5).
47 Potentially an escape, with rapid removal from scene (13).
49 Opponents at bridge are up to scratch (5).
52 Neat as an invention imported from Italy (3,7).
56 Immediately in an awkward predicament (2,3,4).
58 Rebuilt on a site in country before the war (7).
60 System of morality, in consequence, altered characters (7).
61 Chemical in body makes moorhen poorly (7).
62 Fast not quite complete – he gets a tart (6).
64 Herbert and I had reduced garden pest (5).
66 Happy in film, perhaps, as this sort of star (5).
67 Saint wasting no time, hard to follow (5).

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1144

There are no prizes for this crossword. Answers tomorrow.



ACROSS
1 Illness (6)
4 Plod heavily (6)
9 Arms store (7)
10 Harass constantly (5)
11 Church song (4)
12 Negative electrode (7)
14 Uranium radium source (11)
18 Good wishes (7)
19 Capable (4)
22 *Drill* (5)
24 Otalgia (7)
25 Vigour (6)
26 Declare (6)

DOWN
1 Grumble (4)
2 In robust health (5)
3 Restaurant coach (6,3)
5 Ridicule (5)
6 Strife (7)
7 Meal main course (6)
8 Large bomb (11)
11 Pelvis (3)
13 Synonyms book (9)
15 Inexperienced girl (7)
16 Before (3)
17 Squirm (6)
20 Wealth (5)
21 Pre-Easter season (4)
23 Gear (3)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 1143

ACROSS: 1 Wardrobe 5 Once 9 Refiner 10 Myope 11 Shell 12 Roach 13 Laden 15 Defer 16 Reach 18 Abbey 20 Pluto 21 Ingrain 23 Tale 24 Vestment
DOWN: 1 Worker 2 Riffraff 3 Run 4 Bartered Bride 6 Noon 7 Eleven 8 Small fry 11 Sheraton 14 Drainage 15 Despot 17 Hornet 19 Duel 22 Get

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US in a fly move

As a new year dawns America threatens to corner the market in airline bookings

London travel agent Colin Brain confidently expects his business to grow by between 25 and 30 per cent every year for the foreseeable future. He has already seen the revenue in his shop off Edgware Road grow tenfold in the last 13 months – and he is convinced that nearly all that extra income is thanks to a small computer screen on the counter and a massive electronic brain thousands of miles away in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

His enthusiasm is not shared by Britain's airlines, however, for they believe that the computer system he is using, known as Sabre, could be a Trojan horse that will enable the Americans to dominate the world's travel booking system and grab their passengers.

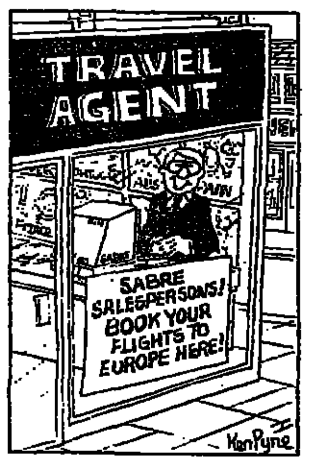
It is an allegation challenged hotly by American Airlines, the owners of Sabre, which stands for Semi Automatic Business Resource Environment. They argue that it is completely unbiased; that it gives an impartial list of all flights anywhere in the world, and that anyone who *subscribes to it, either as an* agent or an airline, will be treated the same.

At the same time it is no secret that they and their smaller rival, United Airlines, which owns a similar system called Apollo, are determined to recover their enormous investment by means of a massive sales campaign to place terminals in travel agencies, hotels and airlines throughout the world.

It is now more than 30 years since American Airlines began working with IBM on a computer system that would not only book airline tickets but print them, reserve hotel rooms and cars, give an instant profile of every client, debit his credit card and, for good measure, *automatically do all the office* paperwork of the agent making the booking.

So far it has cost them $300 million (around £200 million) on the research alone. Sophisticated and slick as the system is, they have 3,500 scientists and computer experts still working on it and have earmarked another billion dollars (£616 million) for further improvements over the next five years.

Now the Association of European Airlines, which represents the *top* 20 airlines in Europe, has decided to spend just $500,000 (£372,000) on a feasibility study to see if they can somehow design a joint European system for Europe's use. They fear that if one massive US-based airline, such as American, has control of the reservations system they will find themselves appearing on the last page of any inventory of flights.



TRAVEL AGENT
SABRE SALESPERSONS! BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS TO EUROPE HERE!
Ken Pyne

"No airline likes to think *that the central system for* selling airline tickets is controlled by their rival," said AEA's director general Karl Heinz Neumeister. "There is always the possibility of bias, and we are trying to see if we can get a mutual European reservations and distribution system which would cross borders and be able to compete in some way against the Americans. It remains to be seen what can be done."

Meanwhile, although not seeking an active ban of the Sabre system, the AEA airlines are trying to convince travel agents and other airlines to hold back the tide of salesmen now banging on doors around Europe. However, *this does not impress* Colin Brain, who was the first in Britain to install Sabre.

"I find the airlines' reaction soul-destroying and pitiful," he said. "They have produced their own reservations systems, which help towards making their lives easier, but they have never given a thought to the travel agent until now. Sabre lets us keep a constant track, not only of our expenditure but of the profile of our customers, from how often they have flown to their preferences for seating and even the drinks they like."

The system can be expensive to install. The going rate to hire one terminal and a printer is $550 (£375) a month, but Mr Brain believes this is a small price for a system that produces air tickets and up-to-date travel information in just two seconds.

It is only natural that European airlines should be concerned at the effects of bookings falling under US domination, but it now seems certain that their efforts to catch up will be too late as well as too modest, and that American foresight will be shown to have paid off – handsomely.

Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

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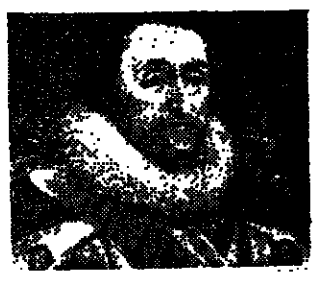
Anniversaries of the year

JANUARY

2 Mily Balakirev, composer, born, Gorky, Russia, 1837.
10 Robinson Jeffers, poet, born, Carmel, California, 1887.
20 Sir John Soane, architect, died, London, 1837.
21 Wolfgang Köhler, psychologist, born, Tallinn, Estonia, 1887.
22 Sir Joseph Whitworth, engineer, died, Monte Carlo, 1887.
23 John Field, composer, died, Moscow, 1837.
Beginning of the Moscow purges, 1937.
28 Arthur Rubinstein, pianist, born, Lodz, Poland, 1887.
29 Thomas Paine, radical, born, Thetford, Norfolk, 1737.

FEBRUARY

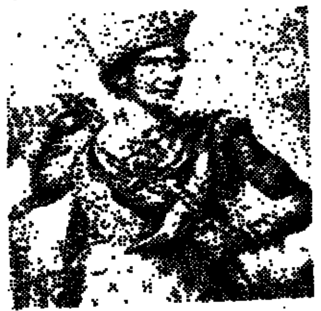
5 Dwight Moody, evangelist, born, East Northfield, Massachusetts, 1837.
7 Sir James Murray, first editor of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, born, Denholm, Roxburghshire, 1837.
8 Mary Queen of Scots, executed, Fotheringay Castle, Northants, 1587.
10 Alexander Pushkin, poet, died, Leningrad, 1837.
Mrs Henry Wood, novelist, died, London, 1887.
12 Jan Swammerdam, naturalist, born Amsterdam 1637.
15 Wilhelm Jensen, writer, born, Heilingenhafen, Germany, 1837.
H.M. Bateman, cartoonist, born, Sutton Forest, New South Wales, 1887.
19 George Büchner, dramatist, died, Zurich, 1837.



20 James I (above), King of Scotland 1406-37, murdered, Perth, 1437.
Elizabeth Rowe, writer, died Frome, Somerset, 1737.
Vincent Massey, governor-general of Canada 1952-59, born Toronto, 1887.
27 Aleksandr Borodin, composer, died, Leningrad, 1887.

MARCH

1 William Dean Howells, novelist, born, Martin's Ferry, Ohio, 1837.
4 Joseph Hocking, novelist and preacher, died, Perranport, Cornwall, 1937.
5 Hector Villa-Lobos, composer, born, Rio de Janeiro, 1887.
8 Henry Ward Beecher, preacher, died, Brooklyn, New York, 1887.
10 William Etty, artist, born York, 1787.
11 Henry Cowell, composer, born, Menlo Park, California, 1887.
16 George Ohm, physicist, born, Erlangen, Germany, 1787.
Sir Austen Chamberlain, statesman, died, London, 1937.



17 Edmund Kean (above), actor, born, London, 1787.
18 Stephen Grover Cleveland, (twice President of the United States 1885-89, 1893-97), born, Caldwell, New Jersey, 1837.
21 Erich Mendelsohn, architect, born, Allenstein, Germany, 1887.
22 Jean-Baptiste Lully, composer, died, Paris, 1687.
23 Juan Gris, artist, born, Madrid, 1887.
25 John Drinkwater, poet and dramatist, died, London, 1937.
29 Mrs Fitzherbert, mistress of the Prince of Wales (later George IV) died, London, 1837.
Karol Szymanowski, composer, died, Lausanne, 1937.
31 John Constable, artist, died, London, 1837.

APRIL

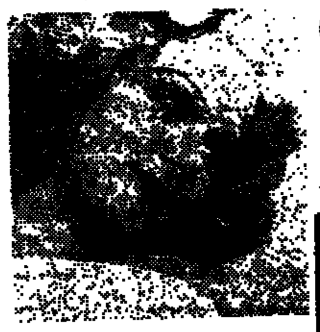
5 Algernon Charles Swinburne, poet, born, London, 1837.
17 John Pierpont Morgan, financier, born, Hartford, Connecticut, 1837.
18 John Foxe, martyrologist, died, London, 1587.
The Times published a letter (subsequently proved to be a forgery) condoning the Phoenix Park murders, supposedly from Charles Stewart Parnell, 1887.
26 Johann Uhland, poet, born, Tübingen, 1787.
27 Edward Gibbon, historian, born, Putney, 1737.
German planes bombed Guernica in the Spanish civil war, 1937.

MAY

5 Geoffrey Fisher, Baron Fisher of Lambeth, archbishop of Canterbury 1945-61, born, Nuneaton, 1887.
6 German airship, Hindenburg, crashed, Lakehurst, New Jersey, 1937.
8 Alphonse Legros, artist, born, Dijon, 1837.
12 The coronation of George VI and Queen Elizabeth 1937.
15 Edwin Muir, poet and critic, born, Deerness, Orkney, 1887.
Philip Snowdon, Viscount Snowden, statesman, died, Tilford, Surrey, 1937.
22 Constantine the Great, Roman emperor 312-337, died, near Isinit, Turkey, 337.
23 John D. Rockefeller, industrialist and philanthropist, died, Ormond Beach, Florida, 1937.
27 Wild Bill (James Butler) Hickok, scout and US marshal, born, Troy Grove, Illinois, 1837.
28 Alfred Adler, psychiatrist, died, Aberdeen, 1937.
30 Alexander Archipenko, artist, born Kiev, 1887.
31 Joseph Grimaldi, clown, died, London, 1837.

JUNE

5 Ruth Benedict, anthropologist, born, New York, 1887.
7 William Daniel Conybeare, geologist, born, London, 1787.



Jean Harlow (above), film star, died, Los Angeles, 1937.
14 Giacomo Leopardi, poet, died, Naples, 1837.
19 Sir James Barrie, dramatist, died, London, 1787.
20 Karl Friedrich Abel, composer, died, London, 1787.
William IV, King of Great Britain 1830-37, died, Windsor Castle, 1837; accession of Victoria.
21 Zululand annexed by Britain, 1887.
22 Sir Julian Huxley, biologist, born, London, 1887.

JULY

2 Amelia Earhart, aviator, lost in flight over the South Pacific, 1937.
3 John Singleton Copley, artist, born, Boston, Massachusetts, 1737.
7 Sir Morrell Mackenzie, physician, born, Leytonstone, Essex, 1837.
Marc Chagall, artist, born, Vitebsk, Russia, 1887.

11 George Gershwin (above), composer, died, Hollywood, 1937.
14 Alfred Krupp, the "cannon king", died, Essen, Germany, 1887.
20 Guglielmo Marconi, physicist and inventor, died, Rome, 1937.
25 Henry Mayhew, journalist and sociologist, died, London, 1887.
28 Marcel Duchamp, artist, born, Blainville, France, 1887.
29 Sigmund Romberg, composer, born, Szeged, Hungary, 1887.

AUGUST

3 Rupert Brooke, poet, born, Rugby, 1887.
6 Ben Jonson, dramatist, died, London, 1637.
9 Henry V, king of England 1413-22, born, Monmouth, 1387.
11 Joseph Nollekins, sculptor, born, London, 1737.
Edith Wharton, novelist, died, St Brice-sous-Forêt, 1937.
14 Charles Hutton, mathematician, born, Newcastle, 1737.
Richard Jefferies, naturalist and writer, died, Goring, Sussex, 1887.
20 Jules Laforgue, poet, died, Paris, 1887.
23 Albert-Charles Roussel, composer, died, Royan, France, 1937.
24 James Weddell, navigator, born, Ostend, 1787.
25 The Honourable Artillery Company incorporated by Henry VIII, 1537.

SEPTEMBER

1 Henry More, theologian, died, Cambridge, 1687.
2 Sir Robert Bruce Lockhart, diplomat and writer, born Anstruther, Fife, 1887.
7 Dame Edith Sitwell, poet, born, Scarborough, 1887.
9 William I, the Conqueror, king of England 1066-87, died, Rouen, 1087.
Luigi Galvani, physiologist, born, Bologna, 1737.
14 Thomas Masaryk, first president of Czechoslovakia 1918-35, died, Lány, Czechoslovakia, 1937.
16 Nadia Boulanger, conductor and music teacher, born, Paris, 1887.
17 The Constitution of the United States signed by the Convention, 1787.
18 William Collins, artist, born, London, 1787.
21 Francis Hopkinson, composer, born, Philadelphia, 1737.
26 Sir Barnes Wallis, aeronautical engineer, born, 1887.

All in the month of May, fifty years ago: the coronation of King George VI (left); the Hindenburg dirigible disaster (right)

OCTOBER

4 François Pierre Guizot, historian and statesman, born, Nimes, 1787.
6 Le Corbusier, architect and town planner, born, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland, 1887.
11 Samuel Wesley, composer, died, London, 1837.
12 Edward VI, king of England, 1546-53, born, Greenwich, 1537.
Dinah Maria Craik, novelist, died, Shortlands, Kent, 1887.
17 Nathaniel Field, actor, baptized, London, 1587.
Johann Hummel, composer, died, Weimar, 1837.
Gustave Kirchoff, physicist, died, Berlin, 1887.
19 Ernest Rutherford, Baron Rutherford of Nelson, physicist, died, Cambridge, 1937.
21 Edmund Waller, poet, died, Beaconsfield, Bucks, 1687.
24 Jane Seymour, third queen of Henry VIII died, Hampton Court, 1537.
31 Chiang Kai-shek, ruler of China 1928-49, born, Cheikiang Province, 1887.
Sir George Macfarren, composer, died, London, 1887.

NOVEMBER

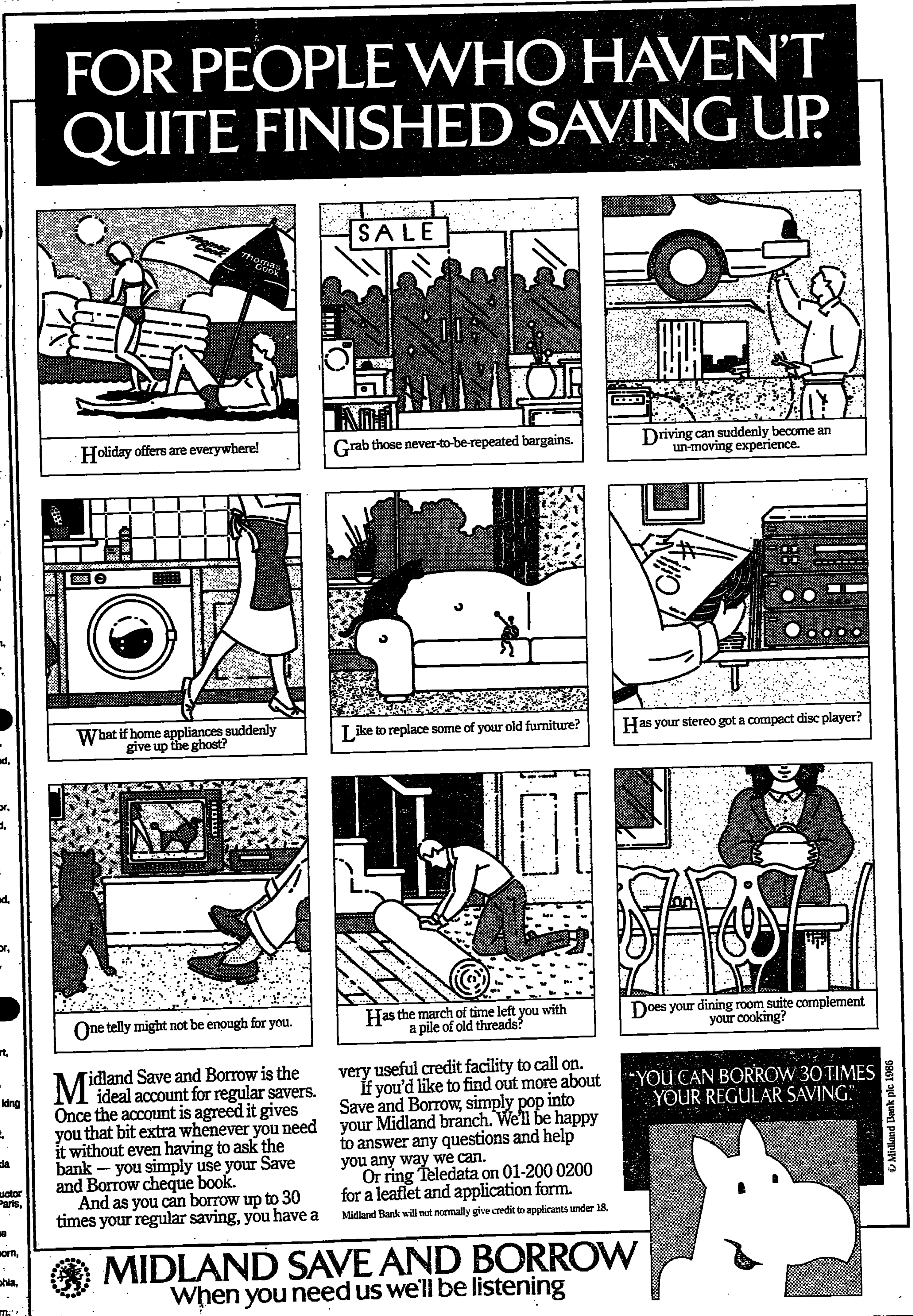
1 L.S. Lowry, artist, born, Manchester, 1887.
2 Jenny Lind, soprano, died, Malvern, 1887.
6 Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson, actor-manager, died, St Margaret's Bay, Kent, 1937.
7 William Stukeley, antiquarian, born, Holbeach, Lincs, 1687.
9 James Ramsay MacDonald, prime minister 1924, 1929-31 and 1931-35, died, at sea *en route* for South America, 1937.
10 Arnold Zweig, novelist, born, Grosz-Glogau, Silesia, 1887.
13 "Bloody Sunday" in Trafalgar Square with many casualties during a Socialist and Irish demonstration, 1887.
14 Nell Gwynn, actress and mistress of Charles II, died, London, 1687.
15 Christopher Gluck, composer, died, Vienna, 1787.
Marianne Moore, poet, born, St Louis, Missouri, 1887.
17 Valentine Baker (Baker Pasha), soldier, died, Tel-el-Kebir, Egypt, 1887.
Bernard Montgomery, 1st Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, field marshal, born, London, 1887.
20 Caroline, queen consort of George II, died, London, 1737.

23 Boris Karloff (above), actor, born, London, 1887.
26 John Alexander Newlands, chemist, born, London, 1837.
Nikolay Vavilov, plant geneticist, born, Moscow, 1887.

DECEMBER

7 Bernardo Pasquini, composer, born, Tuscany, 1637.
Robert Nicoll, poet, died, Edinburgh, 1837.
15 Nero, Roman emperor 54-68, born, Antium (Anzio), 37.
18 Antonio Stradivari, violin maker, died, Cremona, Italy, 1737.
28 Maurice Ravel, composer, died, Paris, 1937.

Compiled by Jack Lonsdale



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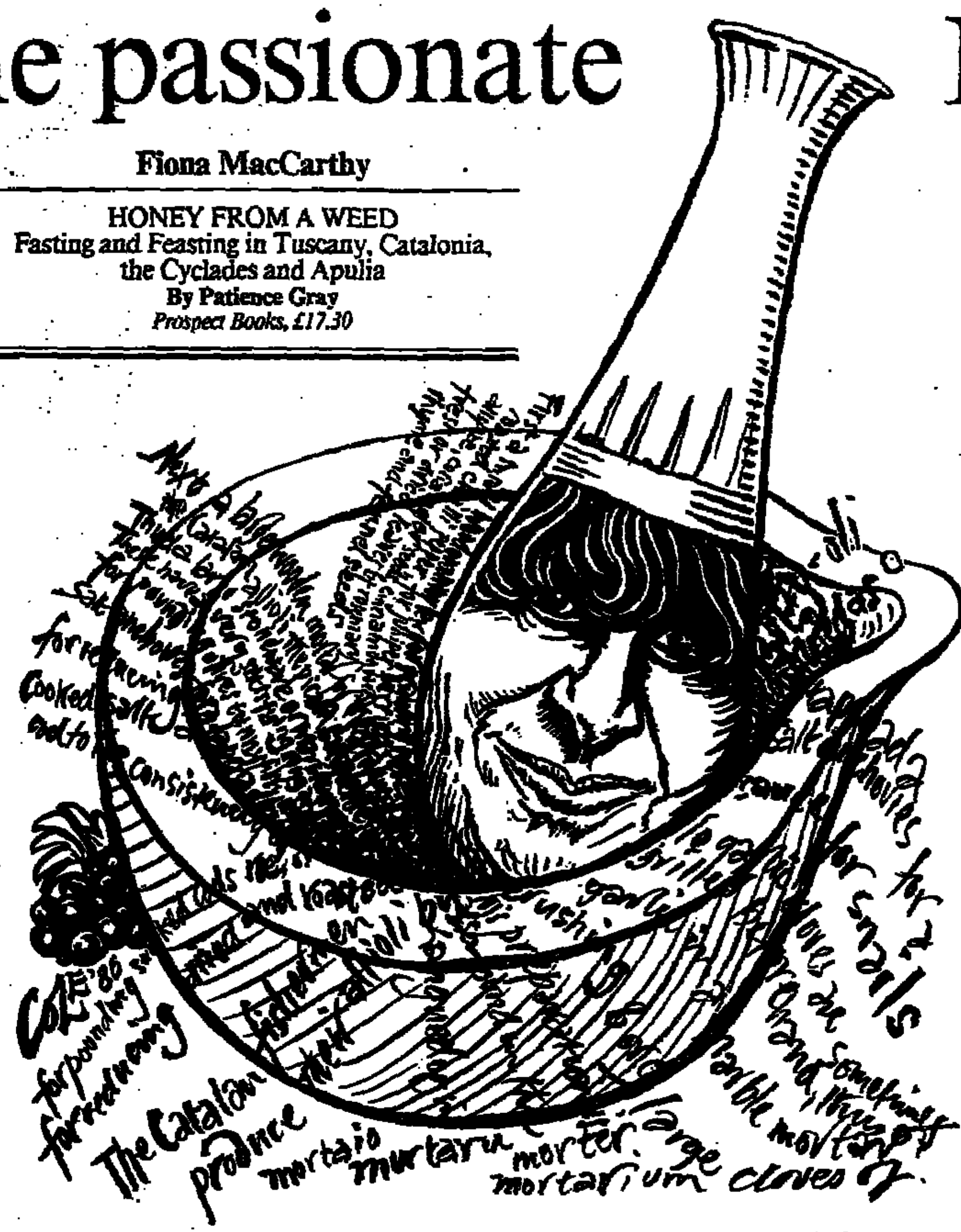
BOOKS

Food and the passionate Englishwoman



Fiona MacCarthy

HONEY FROM A WEED
Fasting and Feasting in Tuscany, Catalonia, the Cyclades and Apulia
By Patience Gray
Prospect Books, £17.30

We all have a bit of Patience Gray, but few of us pursue it. Patience Gray used to be Women's Editor of *The Observer* before meeting her stone carver (referred to as the Sculptor) and embarking on long peregrinations around Europe, from dilapidated mule-shed to ruined sheep farm. They now live, and she makes jewellery, in southern Italy on the Salentine Peninsula. The book is a one-off, a large and grandiose life history, a passionate narrative of extremes of experience. It is a considerable contribution to the literature of the romantic Englishwoman. It is also a coherent and perhaps a classic food book. The places where the Sculptor needs to go for stone and marble are also countries lavish with the olive and vine.

We are in the realms of weed *cuisine*, and no doubt there are people who will cite this book as the ultimate example of the dire effects of art on the English middle classes. I am not too sure myself about the Sculptor, who quotes William Cowper at his helpmate:

> *They whom Truth and*
> *Beauty lead*
> *Can gather Honey from a Weed.*

As the publisher points out, there can be little doubt he is thinking of Patience Gray herself. But is this tactful? This book certainly alters our gloss on the word "weedy", for the Sculptor, fed on dandelions, is all too virile. At one point we come upon the one-time Women's Editor on a terrace in the mountains at Caprese di Michelangelo typing a draft of one of the Sculptor's own remarkable poetic compositions.

But one forgives him everything for the word "frummel". This is his way of describing fuss, commotion, celebration, the sort of scene on Naxos which is known as "fassaria", likely to result in a whole load of sleepless nights. This book is full of frummel: something Patience Gray responds to both: in the private sphere, in the flurry and palaver with which the Mediterranean household greets a visitor, first catching the hen which races squawking round the garden, and in giant civic parties like the La Barozza bean feast. This really is a bean feast. Raw broad beans come in sackfuls from the market at Sarzana and are eaten by the kilo with the mounting of excitement that goes with all the good feasts: the nervous sense of possibility within the formal framework. Where on earth will all this end?

Beans get her going on a learned disquisition on the cultural significance of farting, to which she appends the cook's tip that to stew them with wild chicory lessens the likelihood of grand explosion. She has the English lady abroad's enormous appetite for new experiences, diversions. She relentlessly pursues what she sees as the authentic, becoming a forager as keen as any peasant. The literate lady learns to read the landscape for promises of sustenance: wild mushrooms, a ripe fruit tree. Her culinary wanderings have sharpened her delight in the ambivalence of nature and her sense of its absurdity. Take basil, which is known in Greece as *vasilokós*, meaning royal, and *in situ* gloriously aromatic, but which when transplanted to a northern window-sill can easily develop an appalling smell of cats.

"Never travel any distance with new oil in glass demijohns." Well yes, some of her comments seem a bit beside the point, if not positively arrogant. Patience Gray has retained a tone of voice that is Colonel's widow as much as Sculptor's mistress. She is, I think, a snob; but in a rather special sense. Perhaps all good cooks are snobs. This book radiates her understanding of, and her belief in, the perfectionist concept of *obbligatorio*, which in culinary terms amounts to a superior sense of how the thing ought to be done.

The secret of life was apparently revealed to her when wandering alone in high mountains in the late 1940s. It has since then been applied to some unpromising material. But Patience Gray has kept her extreme sense of decorum even when faced with, for example, spleen of goat, a very spongy substance, not immediately delectable, which she recommends is best cooked cut in sections, wound around with small strips of intestine.

Strange gastronomic figures from the past keep hovering. Patience Gray has been compared, I think only partly rightly, with M.F.K. Fisher, the American food writer. But they are certainly alike in the sense of submerged narrative, which makes their books near-novels. There is the fastidious bibliophile gourmet Irving Davis from whom young Patience Gray, locked in a relationship most curiously parallel to Elizabeth David's with the ageing Norman Douglas, underwent an intensive tutelage in taste.

This book of course is all about sex. How could it not be, when Patience Gray has for so long been immersed in the most primitive practices of crushing, pounding, grinding, in the sensual joys of the releasing of aromas? Pounding fragrant things is the greatest antidote to lingering depression, which (the scholar cook at work again) was something Virgil found. Patience Gray is very ardent on the central sacred function in any proper kitchen of the mortar and that blatant phallic symbol, the culinary pestle. She maintains that the ideal is to have at least three mortars, each with its own pestle: a small and a large wooden one, and then a really huge one in stoneware or in marble. Well, one must feast as well as fast.

Patience Gray once wrote a book called *Plats du Jour*, with Primrose Boyd. That was in 1958, and it was in another life time. It was a good but bourgeois book, and all the recipes were useful. This new book has some extremely useless recipes within it. The recipe, for instance, for Eivissenques Christmas Pudding, a kind of almond gruel with saffron and dry biscuits, met with a definite customer resistance here at home in the People's Republic of South Yorkshire. But it is a better book. It has a quality of lunatic conviction which is like to no other food book, or like any book I know.

Idiots on horses

Jan Morris

A HISTORY OF THE BRITISH CAVALRY
Volume 4
By The Marquess of Anglesey
Secker & Warburg, £35

"How happy we have been in this dear, dear regiment", wrote the civilized and humane Earl of Airlie, commanding officer of the 12th Lancers, shortly before he was killed in the Boer War — "such a happy home...I do so care for it for its own sake."

The cry reads ironically in this, the penultimate volume of Lord Anglesey's glorious history of the British cavalry, because to most readers the overwhelming theme of the book must be the crass and disgraceful character of the British regular cavalry regiments at the moment of imperial apogee, *fin de siècle*. Their officers all too often idle, inept, and arrogant; their men semi-literate and devoid of initiative; even their horses cruelly misused: they were raddled by irrelevant tradition and soured by the curse of England, class.

Most of the book concerns the Boer War; and so we see these preposterous organisms entering the final throes of their heritage, as the *arme blanche* is abandoned for the rifle, the great chargers of old give way to country ponies, and the very *raison d'être* of cavalry is questioned. Swarms of yeomanry and irreverent irregulars enter the scene, making the proud regiments of the regular army seem like fantastic survivals of Crimea and Waterloo.

Not that it is all bad news. Though there are horrifying revelations enough, there are fine things to be learnt too, and many good men to meet. In particular the excellent Major-General William Truman, Inspector-General of the Remount Department throughout the Boer War, gets his due at last: he it was who, with minimal resources, supplied the Army in South Africa with more than half a million horses, assembled from Australia, Canada, India, Burma, Hungary, Russia, Argentina, and the United States, in a truly spectacular feat of military organization.

Lord Anglesey is not one of your mere blow-by-blow historians. He is more interested in people than in battles. His tone is philanthropic, or, better, hippophile. For the real heroes and heroines of the book are the British Army's horses, 347,000 of which died in the cause of human folly during the Boer War. Of all the chill disclosures of this volume, the nastiest is the evidence that the cavalry of Queen Victoria's army, even the best of it, was so callously inefficient in horse-management. "This dear, dear regiment", poor Lord Airlie thought it; but it was the 12th Lancers' own historian who recorded the observation, a sad text to those high imperial times, that British cavalry officers "talked more and knew less about horses than anyone else on earth".

Fall of the House

HISTORICALS

Philippa Toomey

THE TAVERNERS' PLACE
By Joanna Trollope
Hutchinson, £11.95

THE PHYSICIAN
By Noah Gordon
Macmillan, £10.95

THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY
By Karleen Koen
Macdonald, ££10.95

Joanna Trollope is one of my favourite historical novelists. She can write; her plots are good; her characters are believable; and her research is impeccable. In *The Taverners' Place* she has embarked on a much longer novel (commonly called a saga, but resembling those tedious rambles through several generations not at all).

The Taverners are a family in decline, first met in 1870, at Buscombe, their house in Wiltshire. Tom, the heir, succeeded to the baronetcy at the age of six, when his father was killed in the Crimea. With a managing mother and two uncles as trustees, he is wild to be free, to do what he wants with the land and the house he loves.

Tom, his two sisters, Elizabeth and Catherine, and his mother form the first part of the book; including Tom's disastrous marriage to neurotic Rosamund, who ruins him with her extravagance, and worst of all, is a Catholic. The terrible, stultifying atmosphere in the house is beautifully described — a prison for Catherine, the girl forbidden to marry her cousin Harry; a refuge to Elizabeth for a boring, unrewarding marriage; and a passion for Tom. He is a hopeless manager, and the novel chronicles the decline of the wealth and position of a social class that never considered much of interest outside its own limited world.

For all that, the Taverners are never dull. Charles Taverner becomes an archaeologist, close to Arthur Evans. Catherine develops into a globe-trotting Englishwoman of the admirably eccentric school. And the womens' movement has several adherents among the young Taveners. The women are the stronger — and it is only when fresh blood and vigour comes to the family that there is an heir who is worthy of the heritage. The novel mirrors many of the preoccupations of social and political life during the years from 1871 to 1939, when all options for the Taverners are open. A sequel is urgently needed.

Noah Gordon has chosen London in 1021 for the setting *The Physician*. Rob Cole is the eldest of the family at nine, his parents dead, and his brothers and sisters scattered. He could be a slave, but is rescued by a barber-surgeon to be his boy, to learn to juggle and draw the crowds to buy the "cures". Rob discovers a genuine interest in healing (he has the power to tell who will die) and goes to the Jews, the only physicians he knows, for instruction. They refuse, and so he disguises himself as a Jew, and travels through Europe to become a pupil of Avicenna, the world's most famous physician, in Ispahan.

The dangers and complications of life as a Jew in a Muslim world (let alone a Christian *pretending* to be a Jew), his marriage, and his close relationship with fellow students and the ruler make an exciting story. Early medical practice, including an account of how to deal with the plague in the 11th century, makes the modern flesh creep. Rob risks his life by dissecting human bodies — forbidden alike to Christian, Jew, and Muslim — and has to escape home to an unwelcoming England. Woven into an adventure story is a very considerable amount of medical and historical research, without its becoming a burden.

Karleeen Koen's *Through a Glass Darkly* weighs in at nearly 800 pages. It's hard to be fair to such a book. An enormous amount of research into the 18th century, its scandals, its politics, the South Sea Bubble, the building boom in London, is harnessed to a banal and hackneyed story. Beautiful Barbara, daughter of Diana (a handsome and unpleasant slut), grand-daughter of the great Duke of Tamworth (modelled on the Duke of Marlborough), marries at 15 the fascinating Roger, Earl of Devane — a disaster, because Roger loves Philippe de Soissons. No character in the book can be described as sympathetic, and most of them come to very sticky ends — unfortunately Barbara survives, to make a new life in the wilderness of Virginia. I am afraid we shall *not* escape a sequel.

Received wisdom on Moscow

Andrei Navrozov

RUSSIAN STUDIES
By Leonard Schapiro
Collins Harvill, £15

The author of *Russian Studies* admires Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. He compares Lenin with Trotsky, and finds himself on the side of neither. He considers the conflict between Turgenev and Herzen, and prefers the novelist's quiet confidence in Western institutions to the revolutionary's Messianic faith in Russia's destiny. The bewildering thing about this book of essays by the late Leonard Schapiro is how much one disagrees with its author when, on the face of it, there is so little reason to disagree. Almost invariably, Mr Schapiro is on the right side of every major controversy of Russian history.

Yet the writing of history, like any art, is more than a matter of entertaining correct opinions. His intuition born of an obsession with the subject, the ideal historian discovers new facts with the impassioned suspiciousness of a jilted lover and the diligence of a pig trained to sniff for truffles; if he merely organizes standard facts into "opinions", he is not an historian but what the Germans call a *Kulturträger*: a pedlar of received wisdom, a victim of culture. On the whole, I think, Mr Schapiro's book makes such confusing reading because it contains too few original truths to be called good, and too few common falsehoods to be called bad.

In fact, Mr Schapiro, known for his studies, *The Origins of the Communist Autocracy*, and *The Communist Party of the Soviet Union*, as well as a biography of Turgenev, may be said to have possessed the perfect "textbook mind": nothing is exaggerated or distorted, everything is neatly substantiated; yet the end result is neither fish nor fowl, neither truth nor lies, neither Robert Conquest nor Beatrice Webb. Here is an example.

Solzhenitsyn: the revisionist

The opinion that "Bolshevism was a movement alien to true Russians and that it was a predominantly Jewish movement" is incorrect, according to Mr Schapiro's essay on "Jews in the Russian Revolutionary Movement". So it is, but Mr Schapiro goes on: "In historical origin and ideology Bolshevism is an essentially Russian movement, traditional and nationalistic, with a very thin veneer of international socialism." Yet in another essay, "Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn", when the writer he eulogizes as the "conscience of Western civilization" creates "a rogues' gallery of Gulag torturers" in which "Jews play a very prominent part", Mr Schapiro — again correctly — concludes that Solzhenitsyn is not "to be blamed for recording a fact of history."

Somehow we feel that the truth has eluded us, that an innovative historian would have pursued at least some of the arguments that might have led him to its discovery: Lenin's *coup* was brought about by soldiers unwilling to go to the front (deserters and draft evaders), and questions of "Bolshevik ideology" are simply irrelevant; Lenin's machine of oppression relied not on Jews specifically, but on "national minorities" (Letts, Poles, etc.) generally, of which Jews were the most educated and, for that reason, most conspicuous; Solzhenitsyn, despite the importance of his *Gulag Archipelago*, is not an original thinker but an obsessively nationalistic revisionist.

In the case of another essay, 60-odd pages and 154 footnotes are devoted to "Lenin's Intellectual Formation"; but the author never mentions the repeated rejection of Lenin's articles by his own party's publications up to 1917, a fact supported by evidence available within and without Russia. Eagerly we read Mr Schapiro's conjectures about what might have entered Lenin's head, yet we never find evidence as to what exactly, if anything, it contained. Lenin's head was unusually large, but even the largest heads may contain nothing besides ruthlessness and ambition.

Allegories on the theophile

Peter Jones

HOMER THE THEOLOGIAN
By Robert Lamberton
California University, £33.95

When one reads that the Cyclops story is a Freudian projection of a child's fantasy, and that the one-eyed monster is a father-figure, or that Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* is "about" the liberation of women, it is important to suppress the cries of "futtocks" that spring to the lips, and realize that one is in the presence of one of the greatest and most hallowed of all interpretative traditions: what the Greeks called "speaking other/different things"; what we call "allegory".

Allegory has primarily been the domain of the theologian. How else can one describe the unknowable? When the Bishop of Durham proposes other meanings behind the strictly literal, he is merely placing himself in a long line of Judaeo-Christian allegorists going back to the Second Century BC, of whose work Jesus was certainly aware, and to which he was clearly sympathetic (cf. his parables). Homer too came to be regarded as *theologos* — not in the sense of an interpreter, however, but of one who gave an account of the gods (Greeks used *theologos* for both activities). He was a suitable case for treatment.

As early as the Sixth Century BC, one Theagenes from Rhegium in South Italy (or if not him, the Pythagoreans) was applying allegorical interpretations to Homer. Such interpretation seems primarily to have been defensive. Homer, held in such high regard by Greeks that all they had to do was mention "the poet" and everyone knew who was meant, needed protection from critics like Xenophanes, who argued that "Homer and Hesiod have attributed to the gods everything that among men earns shame and abuse — theft, adultery and mutual deceit." So, when the gods join battle in *Iliad* 20, allegorists argued that these were elements of nature in conflict: when Hephaistos, the blacksmith god, fights with the river Xanthos, fire is fighting with water.

These are small beginnings. It is Robert Lamberton's task in this dense and closely argued book to show how from such beginnings Homer was to become in the hands of the Third-Century AD Neoplatonists Porphyry and Plotinus a wholly and quite intentionally allegorical bard, imbued with a mystical understanding of nature and of the fate of souls, and who could be quoted as authoritative evidence against Christianity in much the same way as the scriptures were quoted for it. From this firm base, he argues how, at a time when Homer had not been read for 800 years in the "Latin" West after the collapse of the Roman Empire in the Fifth Century AD, it was yet possible for Dante to welcome him — though in thoroughly Neoplatonist disguise — as *poeta sowrano* into that *nobile castello* where other virtuous but unbaptized pagans like Virgil and Aeneas were located after their death.

Launch 1,000 myths

The problem is that the continuity and information-content of our sources leave much to be desired. Lamberton squeezes what juice he can out of oblique texts. But the book also raises broader issues. The ancients regarded Homer as an intentional allegorist for hundreds of years. No myth, it seems, could be too remote not to contain adumbrations of their contemporary ideologies. It is easy to sneer, but contemporary literary criticism continues to demonstrate that man's propensity for imposing meanings on a text rather than drawing meanings from it remains limitless: Dickens is a Marxist, Virgil an anti-war propagandist, Shakespeare — what not? This is pure allegory — ignorant and second-rate, but harmless enough. Engliterates have to pass the time somehow. But is it not about time that we distinguished clearly between this kind of activity and that of the historian of literature, whose business it is to distance himself from the contemporary world in an attempt to locate the meaning of a text in its original context? Away with "literary criticism". How about "allegorists" and "historians of literature"? The trouble is, everyone thinks they are the latter.

Political ladies

John Campbell

WOMEN, MARRIAGE AND POLITICS, 1860-1914
By Pat Jalland
Oxford, £19.50

Feminist history has a forbidding reputation, but here is a book to dispel prejudice. Instead of seeking didactically to impose 20th-century expectations on her 19th-century subjects, Pat Jalland is careful to place them in their proper social context, and lets them speak vividly and directly for themselves. The result is a series of fresh and intimate close-ups of a wide variety of women — within, admittedly, a narrow social class — and the disposal of a lot of enduring myths.

She approaches the subject as a political historian who realized, as she trawled through the papers of Gladstone and Asquith, Balfour and Curzon, Lyttletons, Tennants and Chamberlains, that here was an immense body of non-political, family correspondence neglected both by those who normally read the papers exclusively for their political content, and by social historians who were unaware of their existence. The wives, mothers and sisters of Victorian public men — very often coming from the same few families, closely intermarried — were inexhaustible letter-writers. From some 50 collections, Pat Jalland has been able to compile a comprehensive first-hand picture of the attitudes and experiences of the female members of the governing class.

Four distinct sections deal with courtship rituals and the marriage market; the joys and tragedies of childbirth; the role of the political wife; and the sadly unfulfilled state of spinsterhood. The third section might have been better kept back for a different book. The other three deal with the universal human experiences of women who merely happen to be of political families. The political chapter could well put off some readers who would be enthralled by the rest of the book. It might usefully have been replaced by a section on another archetypal role of Victorian women: widowhood.

But most eye-opening of all is the section on childbirth. The Victorians' formalized mating rituals; the chaperoning and the financial settlements speak of a vanished world; but the experience of giving birth has hardly changed at all, apart from becoming mercifully safer. Dr Jalland firmly disposes of the idea that because Victorian mothers lost their babies — and husbands their wives — so regularly they felt the tragedy any less. She deals equally severely with those historians who have portrayed Victorian women as congenital invalids, and expectant mothers taking to their beds several months before the birth. On the contrary, many were as active up to the last minute as they are encouraged to be today.

Not only that, but it was normal practice for husbands to be present at the birth, lending support and comfort just as we are allowed to do again today. It was the mid-20th century institutionalization of childbirth that banished fathers from the delivery room. Now Pat Jalland allows us too to the bedside of these brave mothers. The whole book brings us closer to them in the various stages of their female predicament than ever before. It deserves to be paperbacked and widely read.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Wrong side of the law

Manchester policemen could be risking their jobs by using a "gripeline" just set up by Stephen Murphy, the local police authority chairman, to assess force morale. Murphy has defended the phone link, on which officers may complain in confidence about Chief Constable James Anderton's controversial leadership, on the grounds that it is necessary to gauge feeling at every level in the force. However, I now discover that paragraph six of the Police Disciplinary Code expressly forbids officers from approaching a police authority or any of its members "with regard to any matter concerning the force." Something that could furnish Murphy with yet more food for thought is that under the Police Act, the causing of disaffection within the constabulary is itself a criminal offence which can incur a two-year prison sentence.

Blanced out

So much for our brave hopes for English wine. *Decanter* magazine submitted an anonymous sample of *Wootton Seyval 1985* — the English Wine of the Year — to Robert M. Parker Jnr, an influential American wine critic. Parker pronounced it unpleasantly tart, and placed it in a class of "below average wines containing noticeable flaws". "I could never recommend it," he concluded, unrepentant on learning its identity.

Roaming

Alasdair Hutton, Scottish Euro MP and church elder, is hoping to renew the soul of Europe as it approaches its third millenium (his words) with a programme of religious and cultural celebrations to mark the 30th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome in March. The celebrations, dreamt up with fellow conservative MEPs Claus Toksvig from Denmark and Manuel Cantarero (Spain), are designed to steer member nations towards a moral reappraisal of their present ways. Hutton, who wanted to avoid a "quick knees-up in Brussels", admits that he is a wee bit worried that fellow Scots will disapprove of his plans. North of the border, of course, most view the Treaty of Rome as a Satanic attempt to re-establish Popery.

Mishandled

Yet another tale reaches me on misfiled book titles. A reader recently had occasion to examine a set of V & A monographs on English furniture at the British Library. All were stacked in order at the Woolwich store, save one, which turned up in the library's basement collection of official papers. Its title: *English Cabinets.*

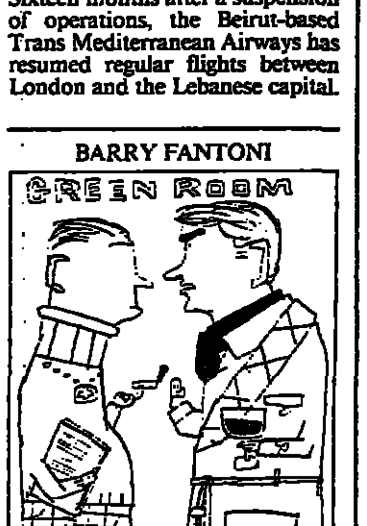
Honey still...

Writers down on their luck can give thanks to A.A. Milne. The recently published accounts of the 200-year-old Royal Literary Fund — which has in the past supported Coleridge, D. H. Lawrence and Thomas Love Peacock — reveal that more than half its income for the coming year will come from Winnie the Pooh royalties. In an act of atonement to English literature, Milne left the trust the copyrights in his will.

Flying today

Good news for Terry Waite , or anyone else winging their way out to Beirut on mercy missions. Sixteen months after a suspension of operations, the Beirut-based Trans Mediterranean Airways has resumed regular flights between London and the Lebanese capital.

BARRY FANTONI



'Forget the ratings. Does the PM watch?'

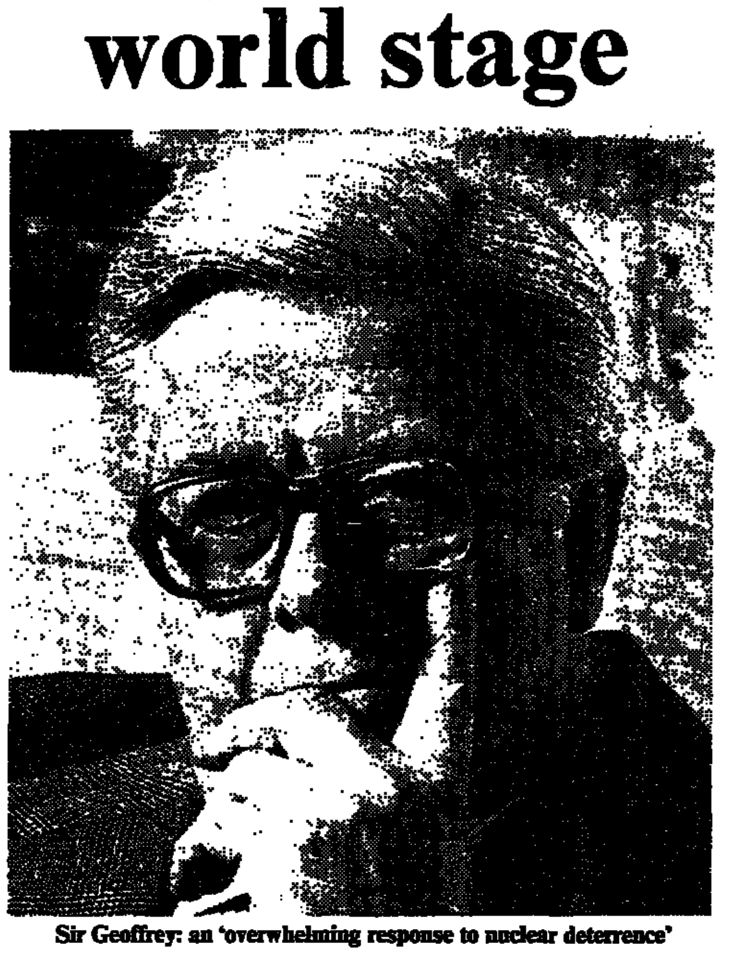
Peace mission

There is more than meets the eye to Cardinal Basil Hume's visit to the Caribbean — his very first — on January 18 to dedicate a cathedral in Antigua. Sources at Westminster Cathedral predicted the visit months ago after the Cardinal declared himself shocked by the findings of *With You In Spirit?*, an internal report highly critical of the Catholic Church's policy towards London's black community. The Caribbean Pastoral Service Centre in North London has lost its chaplain, Fr Brian Creak, as well as its 15-room headquarters, and is now operating from a single room in Bayswater. Fr Albert Clarke, currently visiting Westminster from Trinidad, admits that Hume's tour "comes at a critical time for the Black Catholic community in Britain". Will it prove to be the olive branch — or palm leaf — for which his black flock is waiting?

PHS

David Watt talks to Sir Geoffrey Howe about Britain's international role, Labour defence policy — and his relations with Mrs Thatcher

Self-assured player on the world stage



Sir Geoffrey: an 'overwhelming response to nuclear deterrence'

After nearly four years as Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe slips comfortably into his role. His portly, courtly figure now exudes an air of confidence and experience as it pads round the corridors of Westminster and Whitehall and the international chanceries. His foreign ministerial colleagues appreciate his tact and well-briefed competence, his officials admire his industry and dogged persistence, and the Conservative Party values his solid respectability as well as his capacity to play political fast bowling with a dead bat. The natural prime minister in case of a succession crisis? The perfect chairman of a coalition cabinet? We shall see.

Meanwhile these qualities, natural and acquired, do not make it altogether easy to conduct a New Year interview with Sir Geoffrey. To such a man, prediction is foolhardy, the public definition of problems usually makes them worse, generalization is anathema. As with the old-fashioned feather bed, one is obliged to infer rather than feel a solid frame beneath the soft mountain of caution and periphrasis.

And yet Sir Geoffrey's frame is there. On one side is Europe's connection with the US; on the other is the prospect of achieving significant arms control agreements with the Soviet Union. Both these pieces will be under strain in 1987 and the main object of Britain foreign policy must be to see that they do not crack.

Of the two, the Atlantic strut is evidently the more important to the Foreign Secretary; it is linked in his mind to Britain's commitment to Europe and, interestingly, to the weakness of the British economy: "*The threat that* one still sees dangerously present in the Labour Party's approach to foreign and defence policy is that the transatlantic relationship develops with Britain marginalized outside it. That would be very seriously to Britain's disadvantage. For me, one of the most important reasons for wanting to secure Britain's coherent commitment to the European enterprise has been to enhance our ability to look after ourselves in the wider European-American relationship. As Britain's economic performance has fallen relatively further behind we've had to work harder to maintain our positions of influence for our security while we bring about a gradual improvement in our economy".

He is convinced that the fundamental commitment of US and Europe to each other is still strong enough to be unquestioned by the British people. As for Nato and the doctrine of nuclear deterrence, "I find I can evoke an overwhelming response to this as I go up and down the country". The increase in anti-Americanism he puts down partly to the rhetorical flourishes of the Reagan administration which have made people "apprehensive", and partly to "controversial" American actions such as the invasion of Grenada and the intervention in Libya. At any rate, he claims not to be too worried by it all.

What about Mr Reagan's present difficulties? Here the Foreign Secretary is obviously determined to play with the team: "The feature of alliances is that countries should be able to sustain each other through bad patches of this kind, otherwise you can't have any continuity at all in pursuit of objectives". He agrees that Irangate and the loss of the Senate to the Democrats will make US intervention in Central America more difficult (a fact which did not seem to worry him much, either) and will make it harder for the administration to resist protectionist pressures (which worries him very much). "I think we should get through this year without a major rift between Europe and the US over trade and money but it is going to be a continuous test of our ingenuity and will".

The main point, however, is that Sir Geoffrey does not believe that the Iran affair or the changes in Congress need affect East-West relations adversely. On the US side, the American people and Congress are broadly agreed on the post-Reykjavik agenda: a 50 per cent cut in strategic weapons, an agreement on reducing intermediate nuclear forces in Europe and progress on chemical weapons and conventional forces. On the other side, he does not think the conservative Russians will give up on the Reagan administration. "They prefer the devil, or at any rate the opposite number, they know".

It is striking how absorbed with arms control the Foreign Secretary has become — not least, it seems, because it offers the only plausible relief from the crucial problem of defence costs. He starts from the politician's standpoint: voters simply will not pay more for defence; it is pointless to tell them they ought to and, given the claims of the British economy and the problems created by the American deficit, it is undesirable anyway. Nor is he prepared to consider, far less discuss, what cuts in British defence commitments might be least damaging to British foreign policy when the next major defence review is forced upon us. He merely insists that the most tactical way to meet the Soviet threat in the long run must be to put a cap on defence expenditure by agreement, and he believes that Soviet economic interest points in the same direction.

Another line of thought that emerges from this problem is what he calls "the crying need" for greater European co-operation on arms production and procurement. Progress, he believes, is "painfully slow" but is being made. I asked him where the recent signs of French desire to co-operate with us on nuclear defence might lead. Again the caution about undermining the Atlantic relationship, but an agreement that there is something important here to be explored. "One is bound to feel, at gatherings of the superpowers and among our European partners, that there are sufficient common features of the British and French situations to make it sensible and, I think, inevitable that we should be exchanging views more and more regularly.

After six months in the chair of the European political co-operation machinery, Sir Geoffrey made modest claims for "European foreign policy". "It gets more actually done than the seven-nation economic summits which make bigger claims". In the end, the agreement on terrorism has been useful and even the one on South Africa (which had tested the system "very seriously indeed") could be "respectably presented as a European position".

On South Africa generally, the Foreign Secretary is pessimistic about the internal prospects and "fears" pressure for more sanctions which he thinks will have "destabilizing effects on economic and political conditions in Southern Africa as a whole" without yielding positive change in the Republic. On the other hand he believes that both in the UN and in the Commonwealth. there is much wider understanding than there was of the difficulties that would result from applying sanctions on anything like the scale demanded — or indeed pledged.

After the British election, what? We talked about the Falklands in this context and speculated on what would happen in the event of a Labour government. ("A highly improbable hypothesis"). The Foreign Secretary believes that any British government, of whatever complexion, which embarked on discussions about sovereignty without taking full account of the wishes of the Falklanders would run into severe political difficulties; and if, having started the discussions, it then backed away it would cause tremendous anger in Argentina. Better, "for the foreseeable future" (a favourite phrase) to stick to limited practical steps to normalize relations.

Would he like to go on being Foreign Secretary? "I enjoy it very much". But what about relations with Mrs Thatcher? Long pauses and a meticulous choice of words. "Any foreign policy that is based on the perception of one individual would be less than complete ... if your Prime Minister is absolutely, firmly and unconvertably committed to a point of view, that is a fact. But that doesn't preclude sustained and prolonged dialogue, and not just with the Prime Minister. One must visualize discussions of this kind taking place multilaterally in a world in which the whole topic is being discussed". If this means that Sir Geoffrey sees himself as summoning the world at large to redress the balance of Whitehall and Downing Street, it is not a bad role. And, as I said at the beginning, he seems to fill it well.

Old Miles's Almanac for 1987

JANUARY

The BBC weather forecast says it will get colder and more miserable as the month progresses. The Tory party condemns this as the sort of anti-government propaganda the BBC is always putting out. Willie Whitelaw, head of the government commission to stamp out Aids, declares that if you make sure that you never get into a position of importance in Mrs Thatcher's cabinet and always refuse to go into the House of Lords, then there is very little danger that you will end up heading a commission trying to stamp out Aids. Terry Waite's special envoy, the Archbishop of Canterbury, says 1987 might well be the year in which women priests get into the church, but makes no mention of any plans to get congregations in. A temporary rise in unemployment is blamed on the fact that Geoffrey Boycott cannot make up his mind whether to join another county. Clint Eastwood says he will run for the governorship of California, but this does not mean he is interested in politics; after all, Ronald Reagan has been in the White House for six years without showing any interest. Samantha Fox says she is hard at work on a novel for the Booker Prize, but the quote of the month comes from Sir Robert Armstrong: "I cannot reveal whether I have ever signed the Official Secrets Act."

FEBRUARY

Mrs Thatcher denies that she is thinking in terms of calling a snap election, and leaders of the other parties immediately take to the streets to start canvassing. Nigel Lawson announces plans to sell off the M25 to the public. A team of divers in the Channel announce that they have located the rusty hulk of the Thatcherism and will attempt to bring it to the surface. Luciano Pavarotti fills the Albert Hall by himself: the audience sits outside. A new production of *Carmen* is set in the Toxteth Riots and is greeted as the first opera ever to get an improvement grant. Samantha Fox says she has received an offer from the National Theatre to play Hedda Gabler and is seriously considering it; after all, she does not want to go on being thought of as a Booker Prize contestant for ever. Geoffrey Boycott is chosen to star in a new Dennis Potter TV play, *The Saxophone-Playing Batsman.* Ronald Reagan announces a new multi-billion programme to combat a disease called Aids Wars, which will put a defensive shield of contraceptives in the sky above America. Chapman Pincher reveals that he is not in the pay of the Russians, but the quote of the month comes from Sir Robert Armstrong: "The answer to that question is a qualified perhaps".

MARCH

Terry Waite is kidnapped. The only clue to his whereabouts is a video recording on which he asks the producers of *Today, Start the Week, Newsnight, Panorama* etc to stand by their phones day and night for an exclusive interview. Clint Eastwood becomes Governor of California but denies that he has any designs on the White House; after all, he says, Ronald Reagan was in Hollywood for many years without showing any interest in acting. Reagan announces Summit Wars — a never-ending conversation between himself and Mr Gorbachov; while they are talking, he declares, war could never break out. Keith Waterhouse's opera based on *Diary of a Nobody* is withdrawn from production after members of the Pooter family sue him for some of the money. A new production of *Carmen* is set in an Australian cricket ground, but after Allan Border is out the whole thing collapses. Samantha Fox withdraws from *Hedda Gabler* and goes into training for Wimbledon, saying she does not want to be thought of just as a genius. The divers trying to raise the hulk of the Thatcherism say that the commitment to lower public spending and reducing unemployment are still clearly visible, though useless. The M25 is blocked for three days by Luciano Pavarotti. Mrs Thatcher says a snap election is absolutely out of the question, though the quote of the month comes from Sir Robert Armstrong: "If God had wanted us to tell the truth, *He would not* have signed the Official Secrets Act".

APRIL

A message is received from Terry Waite's captors. It says: "Help! Can nobody stop this man talking?" The Archbishop of Canterbury says that while it is very important to pray for Mr Waite's release, it is even more important not to rush into a hasty decision about female priests. Samantha Fox withdraws from Wimbledon and announces her decision to devote the rest of her life to becoming a female priest or, failing that, meeting Cliff Richard. A hologram of Laurence Olivier receives a hologram of an Oscar for best absent performance of the year. President Reagan announces a new multi-billion programme to combat Nicaragua called Contra Aids, which will involve a defensive shield of dollars in the sky over Nicaragua. Clint Eastwood calls the idea nuts, but adds that he himself has no interest in politics. A new production of *Carmen* is set in the early 1980s, with the construction of the M25 as a background. It fails to open on time. Geoffrey Boycott announces his intention to stand in the forthcoming election as the head of an all-Yorkshire party. Mrs Thatcher announces plans to privatize the BBC. A by-election in London produces a sensational result: the winning Labour candidate is sold off by the government. The best quote of the month is probably a remark by Sir Robert Armstrong: "The ideal civil servant should have complete loyalty to the truth, and protect it from being known at all times".

MAY

Mrs Thatcher dismisses Parliament and asks the Queen for permission to go to the country, but denies that there is any thought of an election in her mind. Samantha Fox announces her decision to stand as an All Round Entertainment candidate in the forthcoming election, saying that she does not want people to think of her for ever as a trainee priest. There is absolutely no progress in the Terry Waite kidnap mystery, apart from a series of six videos of chat shows on which he interviews his captors about life, commitment and the current standards of international air travel. The manuscript of a hitherto completely unknown novel by Jeffrey Archer is discovered, and destroyed by popular request. The government's plan to combat Aids seems to be working — the public has come to equate the dangers of the disease with the dangers of being bored to death by Willie Whitelaw and has given up sex in droves. Willie Whitelaw is put forward as a Nobel Peace Prize candidate. A new production of *Carmen* is set in the shadow of Luciano Pavarotti, but unfortunately the cast is crushed in rehearsal. The team working on raising the hulk of Thatcherism say they have encountered a mystery; as designed, it could never have floated in the first place. Perhaps the most interesting comment of the month is by Sir Robert Armstrong: "I think, therefore I keep quiet".

JUNE

Mrs Thatcher goes on television to implore the nation, in an eve-of-poll message, to vote her into office for an unprecedented third term, though she goes on to deny that she has any thought of involving the country in an election. Other party leaders, too numerous to mention here, go on television to implore the country to give them an unprecedented first term; the only party leader who does not seem crazed by a lust for power, Screaming Lord Sutch, promises to demand a recount if he is elected. A new production of *Carmen* is set in the middle of Brent Council; there is a furore in the second act when Carmen is dismissed from the opera for showing too much interest in soldiers and not enough in the minority interests of gypsies. Wimbledon is won by an overseas player, after Virginia Wade has bravely scratched from the first round. Clint Eastwood declares himself ready to run for the presidency. Sir Robert Armstrong says: "This is a far, far better thing I do, but I'm not telling you what it is."

Miles Kington

Tomorrow: July-December

Ronald Butt

If it's not asking too much...

New year resolutions should be private. But some new new year's wishes may be public and I offer a few of mine for 1987 in the hope that they will stimulate a more useful kind of intellectual exercise than political prognostication. The common denominator of my wishes is that we should be freed from manipulation by words.

If thought should discipline speech, modes of speech can be made to control our thoughts, forcing them reluctantly into channels they would not naturally enter, making us think foolishly, shallowly and sometimes even dishonestly in order to conform. Thought is changed by using words for artificial conditioning to establish what is and is not permissible. Humanity is no longer left to find its own way of expressing such distinctions. Instead, thinking is colonised by the minority word police, so that we conform, not because it is the right thing to do but because we feel we must. It has some curious results.

A few weeks ago, I answered a telephone call for my wife from someone neither of us knows. Relaying the message exactly as it was given to me, I said: "Someone wants to speak to you about being a sidesperson in church." My wife replied: "I'm not a sidesperson; I'm a sidesman, using the term *man as embracing woman*, as my father used to say." One of my daughters remarked that it was all rather silly anyway because if someone was described as a sidesperson you knew it meant woman anyway since no man would use the term.

I said I was not quite so sure. It may be true in the innocent world of sidespersons. But in a more demanding world survival requires conformity. Could either man or woman now survive in a Labour Party caucus or conference without addressing the man or woman presiding as "chair" as though he or she were an inanimate as well as a sexless object?

Is there any university or polytechnic student union in which it is not obligatory to describe the officers of any of the multiplicity of committees as chairpersons or spokespersons? Which brings me to my second wish: that the government should consider how to abolish the financial support it provides for the student unions in universities and polytechnics, which not only provides finance by affiliation for the unrepresentative extremists who control the National Union of Students but also enables those who control the union in each university to exercise thought and word control by the power of the purse.

The malign attitude of many student unions towards freedom of speech is too familiar to need repetition. But the tyranny of the student union in word policing is internal as well. Why should a student union's willingness to support the revival of a debating society be conditional on an undertaking that racism and fascism are not for discussion? Bearing in mind how wantonly and abusively those terms are used by the left (which regards racist as an appropriate description for people like Jonathan Savery of Bristol, who has devoted his career to teaching immigrant childrn and is now without a job) that is not what I call freedom.

So why should the government and local authorities put public money at the disposal of the unrepresentative student unions who determine which clubs and activities they will finance, and so helping them to control the words and thoughts of students? Why cannot they be given hypothecated money only to run sports, canteens and bars, with the rest of the money given to individual students for each to use as he or she thinks fit for the activities which suit them? Why fear to put an end to subsidies for thought and word control?

Student obsession with "racism" and "sexism" leads naturally to the vastly greater area of race relations and alleged sexual discrimination. Week after week there are advertisements, especially in the *Guardian* and similar left-wing papers, of the sort placed by the borough of Ealing the other day: "Head of the Race Equality Unit. Salara circa £22,780 - £24,980", which asks "Have you the commitment, experience, imagination, determination and, above all, the skill to systematically tackle Direct and Indirect Racism? *The* advertisement (which, of course, welcomes applications from all, including "people with disabilities and from lesbians and gay men") does not tell us what precisely indirect racism is; that can be left to the appointed official to make up as he goes along.

A vast freemasonry of such "officials" throughout local government now speaks a private language to itself and foists it on everyone else. It is a growth industry of jobs for the "persons", operating on carefully undefined criteria, permitting the persecution of the unwary who say the wrong word.

There is a huge amount of money in it. Why does not some MP ask the government questions in order to establish the precise total spent on such activities (including anti-heterosexism)? There is not only Home Office aid to local authorities for ethnic minorities, the Commission for Racial Equality and the Equal Opportunities Commission, which I reckon comes to well over £100 million. There is also the unknown amount of ratepayers' money wasted on these causes which would be better spent on facilities for the young or the lonely old, or families with handicapped people to look after.

When there is so much real need, why subsidize a Commission for Racial Equality which takes the view that a local authority in Yorkshire is in breach of the Race Relations Act because it puts Asian children into special English language centres instead of keeping them in classes where they struggle to keep up with those with a proper command of English? I wish 1987 could be the year of the liberation of thought from the verbal tyrants who are now all about us.

Paul Jennings

Smokescreen of that fat cigar

The English verb to *leak* used to mean letting water out of a damaged pipe and making a mess, or into a damaged ship and sinking it. Now it has come to mean, at least in its transitive use, the exact opposite: to obtain a *wanted* result by publishing facts or, for that matter, fictions. The distinction hardly matters now that we are so thoroughly into the transitcom era (I'll come back to that in a moment). It can't be long now before this is universally acknowledged.

Take, for example, Blokefellow Nicker's long-awaited *Traitors, All of M*, alleging that Churchill was the Twelfth Man, the "ultimate spy". Publishers Goring and Boremann are wording their pre-publication notice in *The Bookseller* to read: "Blokefellow Nicker's *Traitors, All of M*, will be leaked early in May to catch holiday-trade reading". Clearly, then, *leak* and *publish* are now synonymous.

Transitcom mixes history, both real and false, with fiction in such a way as to make the people live in a perpetual present, disregarding or disbelieving the past, not interested in any future beyond the next instalment, i.e. leak. It is hard to say whether its extraordinary growth is due to government, publishers, or the electronic media. Probably all three.

Transitcom is by no means new. Although there are now millions of people who are not quite sure whether our prime minister is Mrs Thatcher or Jim Hacker, I myself can remember doing a profile of the radio figure Mrs Dale. Ellis Powell, the actress playing her, at first refused to co-operate unless her name was in bigger type than "Mrs Dale", a reaction I understood more clearly when I was shown two rooms crammed from floor to ceiling with teddy bears, baby clothes, rattles, christening mugs, etc which thousands of listeners had sent in for the baby which a character called Gwen was on the point of having.

In the old days people like, say, Mr Gladstone were real, solid figures. Those who wanted to see and hear them had to get into a real steam train and go to real halls, public squares in London or Manchester or Nottingham or some other real place. They effortlessly passed on this reality to all the millions who never actually did see him. The very first note of unreality in public figures was struck when smudgy photographs of them began to appear in newspapers.

Now that we are all in a whirling motorway-and-TV dream we are easy meat for a long-running transitcom like the present carry-on in Australia. The very name MI5 is a clue. If you look it up on your road map you will see it is where the *M1* crosses the *A41*; turn right for Harrow, *where Churchill was at school*, left for Aylesbury and, of course, Waddesdon Manor, built for the Rothschilds, the very name suggesting money, *wads* of it. One look at the old man in that joke Australian hat, Peter Wright, shows you he is a character actor. It is confusingly possible that the book was written — sorry, leaked — by Michael Wood; his name brazenly revealed to the Russians in the service station between exits 13 and 14 on the M (ah *ha*) 5.

Many of these transitcom names are as obviously made up as Massinger's Greedy or Sheridan's Lydia Languish (or motorway service stations like Scratchwood, Trowell, Aust). Turnbull, almost better than the more obvious Taumtbull, getting a bonzer revenge on John Bull; Havers, perfect name for am-I-coming-or-going Attorney General; Armstrong, suggesting won't budge Bulldog Drummond; Powell, with echoes both of Welsh nationalism and of Enoch's quasi-judicial, more-sorrow-than-in-anger diatribes against the government.

It's difficult to see what new twists the transitcom can take after Nicker's story is leaked in May; Churchill a spy, who'd have thought it! But in the end we shall get used to the idea, and then the transitcom people, whose one purpose is, of course, to make us *forget the past and not think about* the future, will really have to come up with something. Don't worry. They will.

THE TIMES
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ELECTION YEAR?

According to Mr Neil Kinnock's New Year message, the coming months are to be Mrs Thatcher's time of reckoning – the time when her sins will be judged by the British voters and duly punished by them. For most Conservative politicians the reckoning is more mathematical than Methodist. Few now think that the year will pass without a general election. Those whose political armoury includes a calculator, a set of opinion polls and a history book fear that there may be two. The dream of Walworth Road (and the nightmare of Downing Street) is that whoever can dominate a hung parliament in the Spring may seize the chance to rule alone in October. Shades of '74.

On paper, Labour's prospects of an outright majority look poor. But Conservative prospects are not so much better as to make the decision easy. The only certainty is uncertainty.

The year 1987 may well determine the shape of British society for decades. The issue for the voters is whether they should aim to create a non-socialist consensus to replace the post-war consensus which until recently was accepted both by Conservatives and by the moderate leadership of the Labour Party. Both parties had been able to live within it without undue discomfort until it was destroyed by the shift to the left in the unions and the constituency Labour parties. The question which the nation had to face in 1979 and 1983 was whether it wished to accept much more thoroughgoing form of socialism or to embrace a new kind of society which was socially responsible yet also demanded greater individual responsibility.

In both elections, there was a decisive rejection of Labour's offerings – accompanied in the second by a great deal of interest in the new Social Democratic and Liberal Alliance, forged because a number of Labour moderates recognized that their old party no longer stood for their values. The question for 1987 is whether the electors wish a new consensus to be consolidated on the basis of what has been done since 1979 or whether they are again prepared to toy with Labour. To prolong the post-1979 consensus, a Labour defeat is clearly necessary; to entrench it, an outright Tory victory is probably required.

Yet much more than the interests of Mrs Thatcher and the Tory Party hang on the outcome. It may also determine whether the long-predicted political realignment, replacing Labour by the Alliance as the main anti-Tory party, finally occurs. But basic issues are one thing, tactics quite another.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, is reported to favour an election in 1988 since he is confident that unemployment will fall throughout the coming year, that growth will be maintained and that there will be room for both tax cuts and for greater spending on the social services. But, of course, the danger of unforseeable political accidents always makes it dangerous for a Prime Minister to delay an appeal to the people until the last possible moment. It has long been clear that Mrs Thatcher is reluctant to box herself in. For some time, therefore, the practical question has seemed to be whether the election should be held this spring or in the early summer, or whether it should wait until the autumn.

From the standpoint of the Government's self-interest, there is, indeed, much to be said for the autumn. It allows the budget changes to take effect without the appearance of bidding for votes. It provides more time for the implications of a Labour victory to be probed. And it avoids any suspicion that the government is choosing an early election for fear of what lies ahead. The electorate is not unreasonably suspicious about such things.

There are difficulties, however. Not the least is the difficulty of finding an autumn election date that does not launch the campaign with an opposition party conference. To wait until after the Tory conference, however, is to hold the election in the November darkness and cold which the voters may resent.

Mr Norman Tebbit, the party chairman, is hinting that he would be happy with a spring election. There are tactical attractions in combining it with the local polls on May 7, both in order to stretch Alliance resources and to stop the impact of what, for cyclical reasons, seem likely to be poor results for the Tories.

Mrs Thatcher seems instinctively distrustful of such haste. She would prefer to run a full four years in the job to which she was elected. But she has also proclaimed a wish to rid the country of socialism which opinion polls in the spring might promise. If they do, the second consideration is likely to outweigh the first.

A further pointer to the Prime Minister's state of mind is that it would be perfectly reasonable for her to say to her party chairman that it really is not sensible to raise expectations and then disappoint them. To march the troops to the top of the hill and march them down again is a recipe for disillusion and lost verve among party workers – and for breeding a conviction among voters that the Conservatives had intended to snatch a quick victory but had seen something to be afraid of. So, in the absence of denials, we must assume that an early election is a growing possibility.

The best case for that from the nation's standpoint is the pervasive uncertainty of current politics. The longer the delay in answering the question whether socialism is still a serious prospect in Britain, the more the damage to business confidence, government planning and the perception abroad of Britain's standing and future. All such decisions are inevitably blocked by the possibility that if Labour were to win, British politics would be brought into a wholly new dimension in which the country's place in the Western alliance would at least be in question and the attempt to introduce an enterprise society based on popular capitalism destroyed.

Yet for Britain to go back to a collectivist society in which the planner ruled would contrast oddly with the attempts even of communist countries to retreat, however gingerly, from the extremes of socialism. Socialism no longer appears to be the wave of the future.

TRADING BLOWS

The 1980s have been marred by a proliferation of trade disputes between the world's three leading centres of economic activity; the US, the EEC and Japan. So far, these trade frictions have not crossed the threshold into trade war, which all acknowledge is ultimately in no one's interests. Unfortunately, the spectre of a fully-blown Atlantic trade war is now on the horizon.

The Reagan Administration yesterday announced its decision to impose a 200 percent duty on EEC exports to the US of certain foods and beverages, effective January 31, in retaliation for the EEC's failure to offer sufficient compensation for the loss of US grain sales to Spain following that country's accession to the European Community.

Under international trade law, the US is indeed entitled to compensation for lost markets – though how and what form it should take are far from clear. The EEC insists that the whole point of a customs union is to provide preferential trading terms to its own members. It has nonetheless offered guaranteed grain sales of 1.6 million tonnes per annum and insisted that the US will be compensated for any losses in agricultural trade by virtue of its access to Europe's larger industrial market.

The US has been unable to accept this offer because it still entails a substantially reduced market for its agricultural exports, estimated to be worth in excess of £350 million per annum. It also rejects the EEC's assertion that access to Europe's larger industrial market is adequate compensation for losses in the agricultural sector, since American farmers still lose.

It would be a mistake to see the present impasse as just another round in a long series of US-EEC grain trade disputes, none of which have ever amounted to very much. There are now interests at stake on both sides of the Atlantic which could, if left unreconciled, result in the most bitter and damaging dispute since the EEC's Common Agricultural Policy began a war of competitive agricultural subsidisation.

The Reagan Administration is facing considerable pressure from a protectionist Congress and US farmers – many of whom are suffering severely as a result of declining agricultural exports and massive debts – to hold out for more acceptable terms. At the same time, the EEC feels compelled to uphold the principle behind the idea of a customs union, for fear that failure to do so would be a dangerous precedent. Retaliation and counter-retaliation are therefore threatened.

Both sides are fully aware that nobody wins a trade war. What we are witnessing at present is a battle of nerves between Washington and Brussels. The danger with such a strategy is, of course, that fear of a loss of face will inhibit in the short term the kind of reciprocal concessions both sides know they will eventually be compelled to make.

FOURTH LEADER

Astronomers have rediscovered a planet that was officially declared lost half a century ago. It goes by the suspiciously undignified name of Mally, given to it by the original discoverer, a German stargazer called Reinmuth, who took photographs of it in 1931. Presumably Mally was the name of his girl-friend; we deplore the introduction of such frivolity into the constallations, and indeed into the official international star catalogue, where the new heavenly body was listed, very properly, as Minor Planet No. 1179, though unfortunately also subtitled with the name of Herr Reinmuth's light o'love.

For some years after that first glimpse, nobody else reported seeing Mally. An official search was therefore launched, but to no avail; Mally had fled, no man could say whither. Herr Reinmuth suffered the astronomical equivalent of having his epaulettes ripped off on the parade-ground; in 1936, his Mally was declared missing, presumed lost.

And lost she was, until only the other day, when two European astronomers found her again. Now the whole astronomical world, we take it, is at one in demanding an answer to the obvious question: where had Mally been? There have been no reports that when found she was in a dazed condition, consistent with having been abruptly released by kidnappers; it is true that Mally is now only seven kilometres in diameter, but there is no information about her original measurements, so it cannot be said that she was discovered in an emaciated state.

We must also remember that she is a planet, albeit a minor one; if there is one thing we know about planets, it is that they keep to their orbit, and however flighty Mally was, we do not believe she simply got tired of going round and round and wandered away in search of fun elsewhere in the Solar System. Yet for half a century, and even though for the past twenty years or so the heavens have been increasingly littered with spaceprobes, astronauts, satellites and other forms of celestial clutter, there has been no trace of Mally.

Well? It's obvious, isn't it? The cruel Reinmuth jilted her, and the fond, foolish, trusting young planet, unable to bear the sight of the places in which he had sworn his undying troth, hid herself in a remote corner of the Universe until she could face the jokes, the sneers and the pity (and especially the cruel sarcasm of that old cynic, Alpha Centauri). For our part, we shall never allude in her presence to the sad past, but assume that time has worked its healing magic. How did the old exchange go? "I've been on this island for fifty years – to forget what?" "Er – I've forgotten".

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fuelling fires of the future

From Professor Ian Fells, FEng

Sir, The Secretary of State for Energy and his team must now have completed their Christmas holiday reading of the Sizewell report. Sir Frank Layfield, the inspector who laboured long and hard over his lengthy report, no doubt ponders ruefully over his timing.

Since he started to write the report the price of oil has plummeted, dragging down the price of coal with it; and worse, the Chernobyl reactor accident has spread nuclear débris over Europe, Scandinavia and beyond.

Unfortunately Sir Frank has had to exclude both these factors from his thinking when writing his report as they had not been presented in evidence at the inquiry, indeed they could not have been. An impending election further complicates Mr Walker's decision on the future UK nuclear power programme.

It is to be hoped that a decision will be made and not postponed; otherwise the UK nuclear construction industry may well go out of business. But there can be few votes, and those probably negative ones, in choosing to build a Westinghouse-style pressurised water reactor (PWR) in the UK, even if it is pronounced safe by Sir Frank. The anti-nuclear lobby will make considerable capital from the fact that Westinghouse cannot build such a reactor in their own country.

Perhaps the prudent course would be to order another advanced gas-cooled reactor (AGR) station of British design. The latest stations are working well and the bugs have been ironed out of them.

There might be some votes in such a decision; it would ensure jobs; but, as important, statistically the next nuclear accident is likely to happen to a light water reactor, probably a PWR as there are so many of them spread around the world. (Out of 374 reactors world wide, 10 are AGRs, compared with 189 PWRs and 79 boiling water reactors (BWR)).

What is in no doubt is the absolutely central role a safe, invulnerable electricity supply plays in the whole life of Great Britain and that means a strong nuclear component as well as coal and some oil-fired stations.

Yours faithfully,
IAN FELLS,
The University of Newcastle upon Tyne,
Department of Chemical and Process Engineering,
Merz Court, Claremont Road,
Newcastle upon Tyne,
Tyne and Wear.
December 23.

The evil that men do

From Mr S. A. Wheeler

Sir, Dr Beckerman (feature, December 17) exhorts us to condemn only bad acts and not the people who do them because their actions are genetically or environmentally determined. He thus asks us to make a choice which, by his own hypothesis, we are not free to make.

In spite of this apparent paradox, however, it does seem to be remarkably difficult to show the hypothesis to be false. The activities influencing what we do are obviously complex, but if personal conduct and the phenomenon of consciousness and the emotions that we experience all stem from fundamentally mechanistic processes then, on balance, the totality of human behaviour can still be adequately related to reality and marginally conducive to human wellbeing. Indeed it can be argued that by being mechanistic it can be made to be more reliably so.

Yours sincerely,
S. A. WHEELER,
22 Ash Grove,
Clevedon, Avon.

Credit card boom

From Mr Martin Young

Sir, Bernard Levin states ("Discredit where it is due", December 29) that the section of his diatribe in which he quotes me was based on my article in *The Listener* rather than on the *Everyman* television programme of which that article was an adjunct.

Had Mr Levin watched the programme he would have seen each of the four debtors we interviewed confessing unequivocally that it was their own fault for being weak or easily led.

Of course I accept that in Mr Levin's perfect moral universe such people ought not to exist and that, according to Mr Levin, the credit card companies can do no wrong. But then, perhaps he is right and one of my "unconscious attitudes" is a sympathy for those who, for one reason or another, even, Heaven forfend, their own fault, are led into temptation.

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN YOUNG,
Upper Farm,
Woodeaton,
Oxford.
December 29.

Classical top ten

From Mr David Chesterman

Sir, Analysis of all symphonies performed during 1986 in the Royal Albert, Royal Festival, Barbican and Queen Elizabeth halls and at St John's Smith Square shows that Beethoven, with 73¼, wins again, with the largest margin over the runner-up (Haydn, 37½) since I started compiling these figures 35 years ago.

Mozart, invariably second hitherto, is now third with 36, ahead of Dvořák with 33½. Mahler, 26⅘, just behind Tchaikovsky in 1985, has taken his revenge, as the latter can muster only 26¾. Schubert scores 21, Brahms 19, Shostakovich 15 (including the Chamber) and Sibelius 13.

As usual, Dvořák's New World (16½) was the most frequently played, followed by Beethoven's Pastoral (16¼).

Yours faithfully,
DAVID CHESTERMAN,
15 Shire Lane,
Chorleywood, Hertfordshire.
December 31.

Anomalies in law of treasure trove

From Mr Charles Sparrow, QC

Sir, Recent correspondence published in *The Times* (December 6, 15, 20) highlights some of the undoubted anomalies of the treasure trove system. But the case of the Middleham jewel (report, December 12) demonstrates the basic inadequacy of that system.

The Middleham jewel is, artistically, a national treasure of the first rank. Its existence was previously unknown; and its discovery was by chance. In no way could it have formed part of the assumed value of the land in which it was discovered. The public interest and accepted practice throughout the world combine to suggest that such an object should be treated as national property, with the landowner (and perhaps the finder) receiving due compensation.

In principle, that is the result which treasure trove is supposed by the public to achieve. In fact, the working of treasure trove is, for historical reasons, conditioned upon the find having been hidden. If it was merely lost, as the Middleham jewel plainly was, the system wholly fails to operate. Is this eccentric mechanism sensible as a protection for the class of antiquities – i.e., objects of gold or silver – to which treasure trove is limited?

A simple first step in the reform of treasure trove would be to abolish the requirement of a concealment, thus protecting all finds of gold or silver. That is, goodness knows, a pitifully small function when compared with the conventional antiquities statute which is commonplace in the wider world. Yet a Bill to achieve such modest reform was, a little while ago, opposed by the Government (unsuccessfully) in the Lords and then procedurally smothered in the Commons. That Bill had been supported by the Trustees of the British Museum.

The Middleham jewel teaches us a lesson which we should have learnt almost 50 years ago. The incomparable riches of the Sutton Hoo ship were likewise not treasure trove; and they passed into national custody only through a rare act of individual generosity. Systematic reform is imperative. Can we never hope for a responsible attitude in this matter on the part of Government?

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES SPARROW
(Honorary Legal Adviser,
Council for British
Archaeology),
13 Old Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.
December 18.

From the President of the Prehistoric Society

Sir, Once again the prehistoric heritage is under threat. Others have pointed to the scandal concerning the Donhead St Mary hoard (letters, December 6 and 13): the illegal pillaging of a scheduled archaeological site, for which the culprit has been prosecuted and fined, is to be rewarded with an *ex-gratia* treasure trove payment 20 times greater than the fine!

However, the protests have tended to be in terms of *objects*. What many people do not realise is that archaeologists do not grudge anyone their legal enjoyment of antiquities, but that they do deplore the unnecessary and unrecorded destruction of archaeological *data* and the potential loss of *knowledge* caused by unscientific digging.

The context in which objects are found in the ground may provide irreplaceable data; these may be of no intrinsic worth, but be of inestimable historical and scientific value; they can be swiftly destroyed by treasure-hunters not trained to appreciate this form of treasure. Should such destruction of our heritage be rewarded?

Yours faithfully,
THURSTAN SHAW (President,
The Prehistoric Society),
37 Hawthorne Road,
Stapleford, Cambridge.
December 20.

From the Hon Martin Fortescue

Sir, Neither Mr Key (December 15) nor your previous correspondents have spared a mention of the owner of the ground from which the hoard was unearthed by a trespasser, who turned out to be guilty also of offences to do with ancient monuments.

Although most things found under the ground belong to its owner, by a quirk of the law a hoard of coins is the property of the Crown, represented for this purpose by the Treasury, whose habit it has been to reward the actual finder with the full antiquarian value of the find.

In the present instance, however, we are told it is the intention of the Treasury to take over the find on the cheap, at less than half price, because of the wrongdoing of the finder. Surely it would be no more than just if they shared their bargain by making a similar payment to the only person who has been wronged, namely the owner of the ground.

Yours truly,
M. D. FORTESCUE,
Wincombe Park,
Shaftesbury, Dorset.
December 20.

Christian names in 1986

From Mrs Margaret Brown

Sir, As in previous years, I send you my annual analysis of names given to children whose births were announced in *The Times* during the past 12 months.

James is the most popular name for boys for the 23rd year in succession. Elizabeth, as for the last 11 years, retains the lead among the girls:

James	385	(1)	Elizabeth	214	(1)
Edward	244	(5)	Louise	146	(2)
William	236	(3)	Charlotte	140	(5)
Alexander	209	(4)	Jane	107	(3)
Thomas	201	(2)	Alice	102	(7)
John	171	(7)	Mary	98	(4)
Charles	168	(6)	Lucy	89	(13)
David	145	(9)	Sarah	85	(6)
Richard	111	(11)	Emma	84	(13)
Michael	108	(15)	Emily	78	(10)
George	108	(8)			

Figures in parenthesis indicate the position held in 1985.

Richard and Michael have replaced Robert, while Lucy and Emma have supplanted Victoria and Alexandra. Names which increased in favour during 1986 are Hugh, Philip and Harriet.

The table for *first* names shows James and Charlotte once again in the lead. Robert and Christopher have overtaken Benjamin and George, while among the girls, Laura has ousted Sarah (top of the list in 1984, third in 1985) altogether and Philippa, Annabel and Chloë all gained ground:

James	187	(1)	Charlotte	90	(1)
Thomas	147	(2)	Emma	68	(5=)
Alexander	119	(3)	Laura	61	(12)
Edward	118	(4)	Emily	60	(5=)
William	104	(6)	Alice	58	(4)
Charles	80	(5)	Lucy	55	(10)
Nicholas	72	(7)	Sophie	51	(5=)
Oliver	66	(10)	Katherine	48	(9)
Robert	58	(13)	Alexandra	48	(2)
Christopher	56	(11)	Elizabeth	48	(8)

Five thousand, three hundred and twenty-one births were announced. Of these, 2,778 were boys and 2,538 were girls. Five births were announced without any indication of sex.

The following summary shows the distribution of names:

	Boys	Girls
None	283	283
One	436	452
Two	1,276	1,395
Three	763	401
Four	19	7
Five	-	-
Six	1	-

Sixty-seven sets of twins were recorded, of whom 31 were boys, 16 were girls and 20 were mixed. There were two sets of triplets and one set of quadruplets.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET BROWN,
36 Heworth Road,
York.
December 31.

Chariots of fire

From Mrs Anne Bancroft

Sir, In his article on the monastery of Niepokalanow (December 24) Roger Boyes writes of "the shining red fire engine that carries into action the only monastic fire service in Christendom".

One wonders where the boundaries of Christendom lie. Is America, for instance, now outside these boundaries? For a splendid fire service, complete with shining fire engine, is carried into action by the brothers of the Orthodox Monastery of the Holy Protection in Forest Park, Oklahoma.

They are led by their abbot, an imposing figure of some 25 stone in weight, who is frequently the first up the ladder.

Yours faithfully,
ANNE BANCROFT,
1 Grange Villas,
The Street,
Charmouth, Bridport, Dorset

Crosland's school

From Mrs Estelle Chetty

Sir, Roger Scruton wrote (December 30) that, by pressing for the extension of comprehensive education, Anthony Crosland showed "that concern for the lower orders which has ever animated the true Wykehamist".

The intended irony might not have fallen so flat if the statement was factually correct. Anthony Crosland was educated at Highgate School, which for 421 years has distinguished itself by taking pupils from both the lower and higher orders in its London catchment area.

Yours faithfully,
ESTELLE CHETTY,
8d Maynard Close,
Cambria Street, SW6.

Haemophilia and Aids

From the General Secretary of the Haemophilia Society

Sir, Your report (December 23) regarding the incidence of "Aids virus" among people with haemophilia was seriously misleading in a number of respects. An inquest, you report, was told of there being 90 people with haemophilia in the Birmingham area, two thirds of whom are "infected with the Aids virus". The *facts* are:-

1. There are some 600 patients with haemophilia in the Birmingham area.
2. Of those 600 patients, some 90 are severely affected with factor VIII deficiency (haemophilia A).
3. Of those 90 severely affected patients, some 60 per cent show evidence of antibodies to the human immuno-deficiency virus (HIV).
4. This figure is consistent for severely affected haemophilia A patients throughout the country.
5. It is vital that the term "antibody to HIV" be distinguished from "Aids virus"; the presence of antibody does not, *per se*, indicate presence of virus.

It is of the utmost importance that the general public be kept accurately and clearly informed about the incidence of Aids, HIV infection and, even, HIV antibodies as it develops in the community. Such information must, however, be accurate and clear if it is not to mislead and misinform.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID G. WATTERS,
General Secretary,
The Haemophilia Society,
123 Westminster Bridge Road, SE1.
December 23.

ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 1 1896

The following letter was the apparent justification for Jameson's sortie into the Transvaal. It had been reluctantly put together by Uitlander leaders on the insistence of Jameson, who required a formal reason for his action, and was written and signed on November 20 and updated. The ill-fated raid was reported in "On This Day", January 3, 1985

◆

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

CRISIS IN THE TRANSVAAL.

APPEAL FROM UITLANDERS.

Cape Town, Dec. 30.

The following letter, signed by leading inhabitants of Johannesburg, was sent on Saturday to Dr Jameson at Mafeking:-

"Johannesburg, Dec. 28, 1895.

"To Dr Jameson,

"Dear Sir,– The position of matters in this State has become so critical that we are assured that, at no distant period, there will be a conflict between the Government and the Uitlander population. It is scarcely necessary for us to recapitulate what is now matter of history; suffice it to say that the position of thousands of Englishmen and others is rapidly becoming intolerable. Not satisfied with making the Uitlander population pay virtually the whole of the revenue of the country, while denying them representation, the policy of the Government has been steadily to encroach upon the liberty of the subject, and to undermine the security for property to such an extent as to cause a very deep-seated sense of discontent and danger. A foreign corporation of Hollanders is to a considerable extent controlling our destinies and, in conjunction with the Boer leaders, endeavouring to cast them in a mould which is wholly foreign to the genius of the people. Every public act betrays the most positive hostility, not only to everything English, but to the neighbouring States.

"Well, in short, the internal policy of the Government is such as to have roused into antagonism to it, not only practically the whole body of Uitlanders but a large number of the Boers; while its external policy has exasperated the neighbouring States, causing the possibility of great danger to the peace and independence of this Republic. Public feeling is in a condition of smouldering discontent. All the petitions of the people have been refused with a greater or less degree of contempt; and, in the debate on the franchise petition, signed by nearly 40,000 people, one member challenged the Uitlanders to fight for the rights they asked for, and not a single member spoke against him. Not to go into details, we may say that the Government has called into existence all the elements necessary for armed conflict. The one desire of the people here is for fair play, the maintenance of their independence, and the preservation of those public liberties without which life is not worth living. The Government denies these things, and violates the national sense of Englishmen at every turn.

"What we have to consider is, What will be the condition of things here in the event of conflict? Thousands of unarmed men, women and children of our race will be at the mercy of well-armed Boers, while property of enormous value will be in the greatest peril. We cannot contemplate the future without the gravest apprehensions. All feel that we are justified in taking any steps to prevent the shedding of blood and to insure the protection of our rights.

"It is under these circumstances that we feel constrained to call upon you to come to our aid. Should a disturbance arise here, the circumstances are so extreme that we cannot but believe that you and the men under you will not fail to come to the rescue of people who will be so situated. We guarantee any expense that may reasonably be incurred by you in helping us, and ask you to believe that nothing but the sternest necessity has prompted this appeal."

In consequence of this appeal, Dr Jameson yesterday crossed the Transvaal frontier near Mafeking with 700 men, and it is known that he passed Malmani at five o'clock this morning.

No further direct news has been received from the Transvaal. – *Our Correspondent.*

Odds-on chance

From Mr Derek Crosfield

Sir, The odds against my experience must, I believe, be longer than in the case of Mrs Welchman's taxi (December 17).

On a Sunday in June, 1962, at about 12.15 pm my wife and I gave a lift to two girl hitchhikers. They were Spanish girls, off for a day by the sea after a week's fruit-picking at Tiptree.

One year later, on a Sunday in June, shortly after midday, we were motoring in the Dordogne. Two girls were thumbing a lift and we stopped and picked them up. One of them was our acquaintance of the previous year.

We were so delighted by this extraordinary coincidence that we all four happily spent the day together.

Yours sincerely,
DEREK H. CROSFIELD,
21 Maidenburgh Street,
Colchester, Essex.
December 17.

COURT AND SOCIAL

SOCIAL NEWS

Princess Margaret, as Patron of the London Festival Ballet, will attend a performance of *The Nutcracker* at the Festival Hall on January 15, followed by a ball, in aid of the development trust.

Princess Margaret will attend a pantomime spectacular in aid of the Theatre Museum at the Palace Theatre on January 18.

The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, will be the guest of honour at the seventy-fifth anniversary dinner of the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association at Guildhall on January 15.

The Duke of Kent, President, will make the first presentation of BTEC medals at Carpenters' Hall on January 22.

The Duchess of Kent will open Benwell Day Centre, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, on January 26.

The Duke of Kent, as Patron, will visit Trinity College of Music, Mandeville Place, W1, on January 28.

Appointments

Mrs Jan Holt, assistant principal of the London Dance School, who is to be chief executive from today of the National Association of Youth Clubs in succession to Mr Michael Butterfield

Mr G.W.P Hart to be Ambassador to Mongolia in succession to Mr A.R.G. Butler, who will be taking up a further Diplomatic Service appointment.

Miss M.G. Fort to be Ambassador (non-resident) to Chad in succession to Mr M. F. Daly, who has taken up a further Diplomatic Service appointment overseas.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy

CAPTAINS: J R Brigstocke to Dartmouth in cmd as Capt Britannia Royal Navy Col. April 24; J D Watt to MOD (London), April 3; D J Wood to MOD (London), Feb 24.

COMMANDERS: D J Alexander to MOD (London), May 26; A D Auld to MOD (London), June 16; B Jones to MOD (London), Feb 3; R C Nicholson to MOD (London), June 12; C A M Parrish to MOD (London), June 12; G Sullivan to MOD (London), March 6; P G Syer to MOD (London), June 2.

Retirements

VICE-ADMIRAL: Sir Anthony Tippet, Jan 20.

COMMANDER: G S Gobey, Feb 16.

ROYAL MARINES

MAJORS: R J Bruce as 2i/c 4D CDO RM DTBR; R J Elliot to MOD, May 29.

Retirement

Lieutenant-Colonel P A C Howgill, Oct 31.

The Army

BRIGADIER: G S Hollands to be Comd Arty HQ NE Dist/2 Inf Div, Jan 2.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL: B Wright, RMP, to be CO SIB RMP UKLF, Dec 31.

Retirements

Brigadier G G Blakey, late RCT, Dec 29; Colonel D R Ivy, late RTR, Dec 29.

Royal Air Force

Air Vice-Marshal T H Stonor to be Deputy Controller National Air Traffic Services in succession to Air Vice-Marshal B Huxley on Dec 24.

GROUP CAPTAINS: B M Humphries to RCDS, Dec 20; M C G Wilson to HQ RAFSC, Dec 18.

WING COMMANDERS: A C Montgomery to HQRAFSC, Dec 18; A D K Campbell to RAF Cranwell, Dec 22; T E Hamilton to RAF Lossiemouth, Dec 22; J A Bayliss to 7 FTS Church Fenton, Dec 22.

Birthdays today

Dr Jack Birks, 67; Professor Richard Bishop, 62; Sir James Crane, 66; Sir John Dick, QC, 67; Mr Bill Keys, 64; Dr James Merriman, 72; Colonel P.A. Porteous, VC, 69; Professor R.A. Raphael, 66; Sir Ashton Roskill, QC, 85.

Rehearsal time as usual yesterday for Paul Eddington, appointed a Commander of the British Empire in the New Year's Honours, as he goes over a scene with Marina Prior for the opening later in the week in Melbourne, Australia, of HMS Pinafore.

Forthcoming marriages

**Mr J.R.C. McLeod
and Miss A.G. Aubrey**

The engagement is announced between James, only son of Sir Charles McLeod, Bt, and the late Lady McLeod, of Malmesbury, Wiltshire, and Angharad, elder daughter of the late Mr Richard Aubrey and of Mrs Joy Aubrey, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

**Mr M.S. Fawcett
and Miss M.E. Oulton**

The engagement is announced between Malcolm Stephen, younger son of Mr and Mrs C.H. Fawcett, of Seascale, Cumbria, and Mary Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Sir Derek and Lady Oulton, of St John's Wood, London.

**Mr D.M. Free
and Miss H.S.A. Neill**

The engagement is announced between Douglas Michael, son of Mr and Mrs Thomas Free, of Metheringham, Lincolnshire, and Harriet Susan Anne, daughter of Sir Patrick and Lady Neill, of Briantspuddle, Dorset.

**Flight Lieutenant J.N. Barnett, RAF,
and Miss N.K. Barrell, WRAF,**

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, only son of Mr and Mrs A.N. Barnett, of Childwall, Liverpool, and Naomi, only daughter of Squadron Leader and Mrs G.R. Barrell, of North Leigh, Oxfordshire.

**Mr D.A. Chidester
and Miss F.L. Carpenter**

The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Chidester, of Glendale, Arizona, and Lucy, daughter of Mr and Mrs Carpenter, of College Farm House, Felmersham, Bedford.

**Dr D.R. Dean
and Fraulein E. Kaiser**

The engagement is announced between David Robert, son of Mr R. Dean and the late Mrs J.A. Dean, of Kettering, Nottinghamshire, and Elisabeth, youngest daughter of Herr and Frau L. Kaiser, of Höchstadt an der Aisch, Federal Republic of Germany.

**Mr A.P. Crawley
and Miss L.H. Tuchman**

The engagement is announced between Adrian, son of Mr and Mrs P.J. Crawley, of Tenterden, Kent, and Laura, daughter of Dr and Mrs W.W. Tuchman, of New York.

**Mr A.J. Downes
and Miss C.V. Corley**

The engagement is announced between Andrew Downes, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, eldest son of Mr and Mrs David Downes, of Brome, Eye, Suffolk, and Carolyn, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Corley, of Chislehurst, Kent.

**Mr N. Eastwell
and Miss S.J. Geddes**

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Mr and Mrs T.W. Eastwell, of Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, and Sally Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs E.W. Geddes, of Chalkwell, Essex.

**Mr R.J. Edmundson
and Miss M.J. Powell**

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr G.F. Edmundson, of Gatley, Cheshire, and Mrs M.M. Edmundson, of Wilmslow, Cheshire, and Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs K.N. Powell, of Lisvane, Cardiff.

**Mr M.J. Farmer
and Miss K.A. Birkett**

The engagement is announced between Matthew, elder son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Farmer, of Hastingwood, Essex, and Kathryn, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Leonard Birkett, of Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire.

**Mr K.P.R. Fraser Annand
and Miss J.L. Wicks**

The engagement is announced between Kenneth, son of the late Mr Robert Fraser Annand and Mrs Fraser Annand, of Slipton, Northamptonshire, and Joanna, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Allan Wicks, of Canterbury.

**Mr R.P.Gibbs
and Miss C.E. Barnes**

The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Mr and Mrs Alan Gibbs, of The Old Rectory, Farway, Devon, and Caroline, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Barnes, of Larkhill, Worcester.

**Mr W.J. Haddock
and Miss H.M. Shrimpton**

The engagement is announced between William James, elder son of Mr and Mrs W. Haddock, of Stanmore, Middlesex, and Helen Margaret, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs P.J. Shrimpton, of Bromley, Kent.

**Mr S.C. Harrington
and Miss C.E. Lowther**

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs J.C. Harrington, of Hampsthwaite, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, and Claire, daughter of Mr and Mrs I.B. Lowther, of Beeston, Dereham, Norfolk.

**Dr A.J. Heal
and Miss E.M. Fisk**

The engagement is announced between Andrew, second son of Dr and Mrs P.C. Heal, of Lower Marsh, Newton St Cyres, Exeter, and Elaine, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Fisk, of Stone Cottage, Bishopstone, Herefordshire.

**Dr W.B. Henderson
and Dr C.A. Ainsworth**

The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr and Mrs W.M. Henderson, of Pollockshields, Glasgow, and Carol, daughter of Dr and Mrs R.W. Ainsworth, of Seale, Surrey.

**Mr J.C. Kiff
and Miss A.L.G. Finch**

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, second son of Mr Donald Kiff, of St Albans, and Mrs N.R.S. Kiff, of Wheathampstead, and Ann, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs A.G. Finch, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

**Mr S. Leger
and Ms E. Cornu**

The engagement is announced between Stephen, only son of the late Barry Leger, and Jean Leger, of Sidbury, Devon, and Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Paul and Yolande Cornu, of Hove, Sussex.

**Mr D.G. Wentworth-Shields
and Miss S.J. Patchton**

The engagement is announced between David, son of the late Mr and Mrs W.F. Wentworth-Shields, of Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.D. Patchton, of Lichfield, Staffordshire.

**Mr P.A. Hannam
and Miss P.J. Wheelton**

The engagement is announced between Paul Andrew Hannam, and Penelope Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.E. Wheelton.

**Mr D.P.M. Innes
and Miss W.J. Brooks**

The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs K.W. Innes, of Woking, Surrey, and Wendy, only daughter of Mr and Mrs A.G. Brooks, of Farnham, Surrey.

**Dr P.W.M. Johnson
and Dr M.S. Alkema**

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Dr and Mrs A.M. Johnson, of Old Bursledon, Hampshire, and Susan, daughter of Dr and Mrs H.J. Alkema, of Esher, Surrey.

**Mr D.T.P. Sheppard
and Miss B.L. Rymer**

The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mrs W. Sheppard and the late Mr W.P. Sheppard, of Barton-le-Street, North Yorkshire, and Belinda, daughter of Mr J.S. Rymer and Mrs M.A. Rymer, of Driffield, East Yorkshire.

**Mr A.H. Matthews
and Miss S.J. Seaman**

The engagement is announced between Andrew Hamish, son of Mr and Mrs C.B. Matthews, of Fulmer, Buckinghamshire, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Timothy Seaman, of Hindolveston, Norfolk.

**Mr H.A.C. Morse
and Miss A.M. Twycross**

The engagement is announced between Harry, eldest son of Mr and Mrs David Morse, of Belchamp Walter, Suffolk, and Alison, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs Robert Twycross, of Headington, Oxford.

**Mr J.J. Saunders
and Miss S.J. Taylor**

The engagement is announced between Justin, son of Mr Peter Saunders and of Mrs Patricia Saunders, and Susan, daughter of Mrs F.M.S. Taylor.

**Dr C.D. Shennan
and Miss M.J. McIntyre**

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs D.J.G. Shennan, of Merstham, Surrey, and Miranda, daughter of Mr and Mrs C.I. McIntyre, of Chelsea, London.

Marriage

**Mr R.F.G. Beeley
and Miss C.S.C. Paley**

The marriage took place on December 31 at the Church of All Saints, Wardour Castle, Wiltshire, of Mr Rupert Beeley, son of Captain and Mrs Anthony Beeley, and Miss Charlotta Paley, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs John Paley. Father John Trammer and the Rev Kenneth Kendra officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Alison Abel Smith, Miss Jamanda Haddock, Miss Caroline Rylance, Toby Langdon and Sophie Posgate. Mr Michael Keating was best man.

Indian Army Association

Major-General J.H.S. Majury has been elected President of the Indian Army Association and Major J.S. Hewitt has been elected chairman.

Ramblers demand pesticide ban

By a Staff Reporter

Lord Melchett, the vice-president of the Ramblers' Association, has called for a ban on the use of hazardous pesticides close to public footpaths.

In a letter to Mr Michael Jopling, the Minister for Agriculture, Lord Melchett says 27 pesticides used by farmers cause him extreme concern because of the dangers faced by walkers who may come into contact with them.

Lord Melchett says he has identified 118 potentially hazardous chemicals in all, which may still be freely used near footpaths.

"With another spring spraying season about to start, walkers are still threatened by a silent and hidden menace in the countryside," he says.

The Ramblers' Association estimates that 10 million people will go walking regularly in the countryside during 1987.

● Three unions, the Transport and General Workers, the General, Municipal and Boilermakers, and the National Union of Public Employees, have advised their members to refuse to work with pesticides unless the unions are supplied with scientific data which proves that they are safe to use.

The advice follows publication of a report, *Pesticides: The Hidden Peril*, based on a survey of farmworkers, foresters and local authority parks and gardens staff. Half of those questioned reported suffering from headaches, sickness, sore throats and other symptoms of exposure to chemicals.

New Government regulations come into force today whereby those who store pesticides for sale or supply will be obliged to have a recognized certificate of competence or work under the direct supervision of a certificate holder.

Latest wills

Miss Lorna Margaret Berthon **Howell**, of Bognor Regis, left estate valued at £479,747 net. After bequests totalling £31,500 net she left the residue to St Hilda's College, Oxford.

Mr Brian Anthony **Meadows**, of London W8, left £2,503,814 net

Lady **Carreras**, of Henley on Thames, wife of Sir James Enrique Carreras, left £246,838 net.

Mr John **Scotton**, of Weston super Mere, chemist, left £193,059. After personal bequests totalling £11,500 he left the residue to the Friends of the Weston super Mere Hospitals.

Mr Hector Bruce **Binney**, of Pampisford, Cambridgeshire, left estate valued at £1,503,429 net.

Mr Douglas Harold **Hodson**, of Ramsey, Isle of Man, concrete product manufacturer, left £454,481 net. He left personal legacies totalling £1,000 and the residue to the Abbeyfield Society to build homes for the elderly near Newport, Gwent.

Miss Joan Constance **Clifford**, of Exmouth, Devon, left estate valued at £546,642 net. She left most of her estate to the Distressed Gentlefolk's Aid Association.

Other estates include (net before tax):

Band, Miss Margaret, of Leamington Spa.................. £862,932

Kerr, Alfred, of Southport, Merseyside £708,038

Leon, David Trevor, of Hampton Wick, Surrey £633,740

Micklethwait, Eric Walter Eustace, of Egham, Surrey £604,818

Wilkins, Mary Macklaier, of Saffron Walden, Essex £436,010

Pushkin Medal

Dr David Rix, aged 51, of the language teaching centre at York University, has been awarded the Soviet Pushkin Medal for his contribution to the teaching of Russian. He is only the third Briton to be awarded the medal.

Science report

Project to make cheap fibre-reinforced metals

By John Newell

Fibre-reinforced building materials and plastics are well established. Now the same principle is being applied to metals. Like plastics, metals such as aluminium alloys can be made much stronger with no increase in weight by reinforcing them with special materials such as carbon fibre.

But since fibre-reinforced metals are so expensive to make, they have been restricted to a handful of applications, mainly for military purposes in the aerospace field.

Now a team working with Mr Bryan Hill at the British Non-Ferrous Metals (BNFM) technology centre have found a way to make fibre-reinforced metal alloys much more cheaply. They are now inviting interested parties anywhere in the world to join them in a cooperative development project to be shared by up to 20 companies.

The aim is to take the work to the stage where the process can be used to fabricate fibre-reinforced metal alloys ten times as cheaply as those of today for use on a massive scale in applications that would include car and lorry bodies, aircraft, trains, bridges, submarine hulls or golf clubs.

Fibres which increase the strength of the alloy are only about two microns in diameter; in the formation of metal composites that creates a difficulty when devising a method to ensure that the molten metal flows all round each minute fibre.

The BNFM team, at Wantage, in Oxfordshire, have solved that with an ingenious technique in which a vacuum is first applied to bundles of fibres and then molten metal is added. The absence of air makes it much easier for metal to trickle between the individual fibres. Then high pressure is applied to force the metal into any gaps it may have missed.

Another major technical problem comes in shaping components made of fibre-reinforced metals. Conventional cutting and shaping techniques are ineffective. BNFM has developed a new technique but is not revealing details while the process is the *subject of a patent application*.

The process is still well away from commercial use. But when and if it becomes commercial then its implications will be considerable. Reducing the weight of metal body components in cars, trains and aircraft by a factor of up to three would mean enormous savings in fuel and consequent increases in speed, range, passenger protection and comfort.

OBITUARY

SIR ERIC JONES

Textile man who became master of secrets

Sir Eric Jones, KCMG, CB, CBE, an important figure in wartime Intelligence and a post-war director of GCHQ, died suddenly on Christmas Eve. He was 79.

Eric Malcolm Jones was born on April 27, 1907. He was educated at King's School, Macclesfield, and left it to join the family textile business in Manchester.

He established himself on his own as a textile merchant and agent in 1925, and built up a large business with widespread interests. This he handed over to a manager when, in 1940, he enlisted in the RAFVR.

He was posted to the Air Ministry and engaged in assessing the intelligence which flowed from the breaking of the German Enigma cyphers by the government code and cypher school at Bletchley Park. This material became vital in the conduct of the war, and Jones was posted to Bletchley as group captain in charge of an expanded inter-service and civilian group known as "Hut 3," responsible for the accurate, rapid, and secure dissemination of the Enigma product to the ministries and the principal commands.

Its success owed much to his clarity of purpose and his firmness in directing this group of high-powered individuals. At the end of the war, he was UK SIGINT representative in Washington, founding relationships of great importance for the future. In 1946 he received the US Legion of Merit, in addition to the CBE.

He stayed on in the post-war organization, and was the obvious choice to succeed Sir Edward Travis as director of GCHQ in 1952. It was a swift and almost unprecedented rise in the Foreign Office, particularly for one who had entered it comparatively late in life.

Shortly before this, GCHQ had been moved from London to Cheltenham, a change that was much to Jones's liking, because it enabled him to buy Bredons Hardwick Manor, near Tewkesbury, where he and his wife pursued, with their family, their interest in gardening.

One of his main achievements as director was to sort out the confused relationships with the service ministries and other departments which GCHQ had inherited from wartime.

Deciding that eight years was long enough for anyone in that post, he took early retirement in 1960. He then accepted directorships in a number of enterprises including, from 1966 to 1977, Simon Engineering Ltd. His association over the years with the Midlands, together with his considerable knowledge of the textile trade, made for a smooth return to industry.

Both at work and at play, he aimed simply at being the best. In his official career, this led to exceptionally rapid advancement, but even so may not have taken him as far as he wished.

In his leisure activities, he showed the same drive and skill, whether in growing carnations, playing golf or learning to ski, which he did in his fifties. As a colleague, he was loyal, kindly, deliberate in speech and undeviating in his principles.

His wife, Edith Mary Taylor, whom he married in 1929, died in 1984. He is survived by their son and daughter.

MR PETER WOLFE

Mr Peter Wolfe, publisher, died suddenly on 22 December. He was 57.

Peter Bernard Wolfe was born in Hungary on March 6, 1929, and came to England as a child with his parents. He was educated at Preston Park Grammar School, Wembley, leaving when he was sixteen for National Service in the army.

He started his career in publishing at Methuen in 1945, first as office boy, then graduating to educational representative and assistant sales manager. He later became sales manager at André Deutsch, and in 1959 joined *The Sunday Times* as the first manager of its book department.

He launched Wolfe Publishing in 1962. Titles such as *The Good Loo Guide to London*, *The Insult Dictionary*, *The Mini Ha-Ha* series of joke books and *The Awful...(Salesman, Secretary,* etc.) series established him as a leading publisher of this type of book.

He invented the *Medical Colour Atlas*. His editorial objective was to present medical diagnostic information, using mainly colour photographs. His marketing objective was to create long international print runs, and to make good colour reproduction available to doctors and students at reasonable cost.

He published, in 1967, *Human Anatomy* by McMinn and Hutchings and, two years later, his first medical colour atlas, *Haematological Cytology*, by Hayhoe and Flemans. The list now contains over 160 titles, and has been translated into some 20 languages.

Last year he sold the business to Year Book Medical Publishers of Chicago, himself becoming a vice-president of the company.

In 1979 he was appointed a member of the National Trust's finance committee, advising on publishing matters.

Wolfe was a man of energy and imagination, quick to make a decision. He was one whom the act of talking helped to clarify his thoughts.

He married, in 1956, Kathleen Neil. She and their three sons survive him.

MR ANATOLI ZVEREV

Mr Anatoli Zverev, who won renown as one of the most talented non-conformist artists in the Soviet Union, died in Moscow on December 9. He was 55.

A Muscovite, he was born in *1931* and was entirely self-taught. In the late 1950s he came to the notice of the artistic community as one of his country's most original exponents of non-official art.

He was a non-conformist not only in his painting but equally in his dress, his appearance and his Bohemian way of life.

For a time he earned his living as a slide-projectionist for Mikhail Alpatov, the art critic and historian, at the Surikov Institute.

In his portraits and self-portraits, executed in an aggressive, expressionist manner, the sitter's perplexed and often tragic-looking face was realized by means of a system of criss-cross lines superimposed on a background of coloured splashes.

Zverev is said to have been expelled from the Soviet Academy of Arts for painting a *nude* on the reverse side of a portrait of Stalin by the academician Gerassimov.

The collector Georges Costaki acquired many of his paintings for his private museum in Moscow.

During the 1960s and 1970s Zverev's paintings were occasionally on view in private shows in Moscow and abroad. When he was a conductor in Geneva, George Markevitch arranged a first one-man show of his canvasses in that city in 1965.

After years of being boycotted in official artistic circles in Russia, Zverev succeeded, in 1981, in having his first one-man show staged in Moscow by the Union of Soviet Artists.

ELSA LANCHESTER

Mr Giles Playfair writes:

Your obituary of Elsa Lanchester (December 29) tells the truth so far as it goes but, in my judgement, it does not go far enough.

Elsa's second autobiography is called *Elsa Lanchester Herself*. She was undoubtedly herself before *1927* when she met and married Charles Laughton. But afterwards, despite her many talents, she became in effect no more than his shadow.

Born out of wedlock of an upper class mother who did not believe in marriage, and of a working class father, she grew into a hoyden of extraordinary independence. While still in her teens she was made a member of the famous 1917 Club. It was about the same time that she started, in *partnership with Harold Scott*, the Cave of Harmony, which was patronized by intellectuals of all ages, including the youthful Evelyn Waugh, who claimed to have been born at precisely the same hour as Elsa.

Nigel Playfair, who was a regular attendant as well as a performer at the Cave of Harmony, was, as she recalls in her autobiography, her lovable father figure. However, she did not remember something he once said to her when, as usual, she was being aggressively scornful as much of riches as of social conventions. "One day, Elsa, you'll drive to Ascot in a Rolls Royce."

And one day Elsa did - at *least metaphorically*. But it was at the cost of her independence. Charles Laughton turned out to be homosexual. As he grew older, his homosexuality became more pronounced, and this meant constant humiliations for her.

But she could not (or would not) leave him. He exercised a kind of mesmeric hold over her. If he had wished to, he could have destroyed her career utterly, as on one occasion he came close to doing.

It appears that some readers have never seen the obituary of Lord Stockton which was run in our earlier editions yesterday and our later editions on Tuesday. We are very sorry about this.

If they would kindly write to the *Backdates Department, London Post Printers Ltd., PO Box 481, Virginia Street, London, E1 9BD*, a complimentary copy of the piece will be sent to them.

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3000	107.56	3872.16	75.20	4512.00	59.88	5389.20	52.90	6348.00
4000	143.41	5162.76	100.27	6016.20	79.86	7187.40	70.53	8463.60
5000	179.26	6453.36	125.34	7520.40	99.82	8983.80	88.17	10580.40
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Amount of Mortgage outstanding £..........
Date property purchased..............
Price paid for property £..............
Estimated value of property £..........
I/We do/do not occupy premises
YOURSELF
Date of Birth
Self.............. Spouse..............

Tel. No. Home ....
Surname....................................
Forename(s)................................
Surname (Spouse)........................
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Date..............................

14015/1/1

PERSONAL COLUMNS

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

Only thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law..
Joshua 1 : 7

BIRTHS

ALLEZ - On December 29th 1986, at Princess Elizabeth hospital Guernsey, to Anna (née Thomas) and Geoffrey, a daughter, Thomasin Sarah.

AZIS - On December 18th to Jonathan and Emily (née Briggs), a daughter.

BURGESS - On 21st December 1986, to Clare (née White) and Keith, a son, Frederick Lionel, a brother for Patrick.

CHARD - On December 24th 1986 to Julia (née Rowe) and David a daughter, Helena Frances Lucy, a sister for Alexander.

CHASE - On 27th December to Rob and Moya, a son, Thomas Martin, at the Matilda Hospital, Hong Kong.

CLANCY - On December 29th to Vicky (née Milien) and Dermot, a daughter, Joanna Rachel, sister for Daniel, Ronan and Kieran.

CORDELL - On December 9th, at West London Hospital, to Keri (née Beak), and Andrew, a son, James Rupert, a brother for Natasha.

FETHERSTON-DILKE - On 31st December 1986, to Rosemary and Michael, a son, Edward Charles.

GILLBE - On 30th December to Jane and John, Celia Mary, a sister for Clare and David.

GOERITZ - On December 30th at Queen Charlottes Hospital to Jane and David, a son, Nicholas.

JOHNSON - On December 29th, to Peter and Juliet a daughter, Lucy Charlotte Acland.

KELLY - On December 21st to Gill and Richard, a daughter, Dymphna, a sister for William, Dickon and Benedict.

KENNEDY - On December 17th at Winchester to Jacqueline and James, a daughter Emma Ann, a sister for Charles.

KNIGHT - On December 18th 1986, at Guy's Hospital, London, to Elaine (née Montgomery) and Richard, a daughter, Emily Alice Montgomery, a sister for Charlotte.

McLAREN - On December 24th, in St Lukes Hospital, Guildford, to Charlotte (Née Hambidge) and Robert, a daughter Anna Catharine

MORTON-HOOPER - On 27th December, at St.Thomas' Hospital to Carolyn (née Colquhoun) and Anthony, a daughter, Eleanor Alexandra.

NIGHTINGALE - On December 26th, at Kettering, to Jennifer (née Kirby) and Clive, a daughter, Hannah May, a sister for Luke.

PAUL - On 17th December to Claire (née Barrowclough) and Nicholas, a daughter, Phoebe Henrietta, a sister for Flora.

RAMAMURTHY - On 19th December 1986, at Westminster Hospital, to Janet (née Robinson) and Babloo, a daughter, Sarah.

RAMSDEN - On December 27th, in Sydney, Australia, to Kelly and Peter, a son, Daniel George.

RANKIN-GEE - On 24th December 1986, to Maggie Gee and Nicholas Rankin, a daughter, Rosa Aileen Teg.

ROBERTS - On 26th December 1986, in Mount Alvernia, Guildford, to Suzi (née Eckersley) and Charles, a son Edward Alan, a brother for Samantha.

SPIKES - On 30th December, to Susan and Roger, a son, William Roger, a brother for Josephine.

STOTT - On December 30th, to Susan (née Haworth) and James, a daughter.

WEST - On December 28th, to Jane (née Norridge) and Stephen, a daughter Georgina Martha.

DEATHS

AMESS - On December 21st 1986, peacefully at home in Forest Gate, James Henry Valentine, much loved husband of Maud and father of David and Angela. The burial service was at St Anthony's R.C. Church on Christmas Eve.

ANDERSON - On 29th December 1986, Cynthia (née Brettell) of Rowde Mill, near Devizes, suddenly but peacefully in the Royal United Hospital, Bath, beloved wife of Peter and sister of Terence, much loved mother of Martin and Christopher and adored granny of Richard, Nicola, Sarah, Claire and Susan. She will be sadly missed by all her many relatives and friends, especially Hilda and her daughters-in-law Judy and Elaine. Funeral service and committal on Thursday, 8th January at St Matthew's Church, Rowde at 2 pm. Family flowers only, but if desired, donations to Wiltshire Conservation Trust, c/o E Raddon Funeral Directors Ltd, 23 Sidmouth Street, Devizes.

BIRD - On 29th December 1986 suddenly but peacefully Richard E. R. Bird, much loved husband of Doreen, father of Susan, Patricia and Michael and grandfather of eight dear children. Cremation private.

BISHOP - On December 27th 1986, peacefully at Worthing, Stanley F Bishop, much loved and deeply missed by his wife Jackie, brother Cyril, step son, nephews, nieces, relatives and friends. Funeral service at Durrington Cemetery, Worthing on Tuesday January 6th 1987 at 12.30 pm. Enquiries to Dillistone Funeral Service, Worthing 200836

CAMPBELL - On December 30th 1986, peacefully at her home, Ann Campbell, formerly Peczenik, most dearly loved by her family and friends. Family funeral. Memorial service to be held at St Columbus Church, Pont Street, at 12 noon on Monday, 26th January 1987.

de TURVILLE — On December 27th, Professor Jean Raoul Pierre Dominique, peacefully at Ramsdell after a long illness courageously borne. Requiem mass at The Holy Ghost Church, Basingstoke on January 5th 1987 at 12 Noon, followed by interment at Worting Road Cemetery. Flowers and enquiries to A Monger Ltd, Funeral Directors. Telephone Basingstoke 850025.

GARTON - On December 27th, suddenly and peacefully, Raymond. Dearly beloved husband of Sue, and dear father of Nicholas and Russell, son of Vera and Ronald, brother of Sheila. Service at St Andrew's Church, Oxshott, Surrey, on Wednesday, 7th January, at 2.30 pm and at Cobham Cemetery. Family flowers only, donations if desired for Princess Alice Hospice, Esher, to Messrs James and Thomas, Mill Road, Cobham. Tel: 0932-62009.

HARRIES - On December 27th, Molly, beloved wife of Wing Commander 'Chic' Harries, mother of Stephen and Fred, sadly missed by all. Service and Cremation at Easthampstead Park Crematorium, Bracknell, Berks, at 3pm on Friday January 2nd. Family Flowers only. Donations to Cancer Research Fund please.

HATFIELD - On 29th December 1986 peacefully in Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, Frances Margaret much loved mother of Stephen, Lucian and Isabella and a dear grandmother. Funeral service at Grantchester Parish Church on Tuesday 6th of January at 4.15pm. Donations please to Dr. Hayhoes Leukaemia Research Fund c/o Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.

HILL - On December 26th, suddenly on holiday at Paignton, Arthur Douglas F.R.I.C.S., F.F.A.S., F.C.I. Arb., L.R.P.S. of Gadrys Gwaelod-Y-Garth, devoted husband of Renée, dearest Dad of Douglas, Nigel, Anthony and Christine, a dear father-in-law and much loved grandfather. Resting peacefully at Co-operative Funeral Home, Rosemount, North Road, Cardiff until the service at Glyntaff Crematorium on Tuesday January 6th at 10.30 am. No flowers by request, but donations in lieu if desired to The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors Benevolent Fund, 12 Great George St, Parliament Square, London.

HOWLAND - On December 30th, Cicely Howland C.B.E., L.V.O., aged 100. Delightful companion to a wide circle of friends, and to four generations of her family. Funeral service at 3pm on Thursday 8th January at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip. Family flowers only, but donations may be sent to the N.S.P.C.C., 67 Saffron Hill, London EC1N 8RS. All enquiries to James Peddle, Rickmansworth 0923 772013.

HUMPAGE - On December 28th 1986, peacefully after a brief illness, Edmund Bertram, Lt Col, Royal Warwicks (Ret) M.B.E., aged 88, loved father of Tony, Bruce and Peter. Funeral service at St Gregory's Church, Morville, Shropshire on Friday January 9th at 12.15 pm. No flowers. Donations to St Gregory's Church, Morville.

LEWIS - On December 30th at Scunthorpe, aged 98, Dorothy Margaret (née Beavis), widow of Llewellyn Brigstocke and dearly loved mother of James, Peter, Brian and Mary. Funeral at Church of the Holy Spirit, Scunthorpe, 1.00 pm on Tuesday January 6th. Flowers to Co-operative Funeral Services, 2 Bottesford Road, Scunthorpe.

McCABE - On December 29th at Henley-on-Thames, Rose Annetta, reunited with her beloved Dick, Dr Richard Alger McCabe, the dear and respected parents of Joyce Pyburn and Nancy Davies and grandparents of Simon and Judy. Funeral, family only.

MILLS - On December 25th, peacefully after a short illness, Vanessa, dearly beloved daughter of Alan and Elizabeth and sister of Michael. Funeral service at 12.30 pm on Wednesday January 7th, at Christchurch, Chelsea. No mourning please. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to Director Neurosurgical Unit, Maudsley Hospital, De Crespigny Park, London SE5 8AZ.

MOSS - On 30th December 1986, peacefully at home, after a long illness, Vere Kathleen, beloved wife of Frank, deeply loved and mourned by all her family. Funeral private. No flowers or letters please.

PENHALIGON - A service of Thanks Giving for the life and work of David Charles Penhaligon, Member of Parliament for the Truro Constituency will be held at Truro Cathedral on Saturday January 10th 1987 at 2pm.

POPE - On December 29th 1986, peacefully at St Helen's Hospital, Hastings, Eric James, aged 80, of West Wickham, Peasmarsh Place, and Ledsham Court. Funeral service, Wednesday January 7th, 12 noon, Hastings Crematorium. Flowers or if desired donations to Age Concern, c/o D.C. Mercer and Son Funeral Directors, 29 Sedlescombe Road North, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex.

RAW-REES - On December 28th peacefully at St Thomas's Hospital, London, James Edward, DFC, DL, JP, (Squadron Leader RAF VR), Maes-Awelon, Waun Fawr, Aberystwyth, greatly loved husband of Mair and loving father of Charles and Sion, devoted father-in-law of Velvor, 49 Squadron, Bomber Command 1941-43, Royal Austrian Airforce 1943-48, former High Sheriff of Cardiganshire, former Chairman of District Council. Public funeral, Llanbadarn Fawr Church, 2pm Friday 2nd January. No flowers. Donations in lieu, if desired RAFA Benevolent fund and Rheumatism Research, C/O Mr Eilyn Thomas, Sunny Mead, Llandre

REID - On 29th December 1986 peacefully at home, Gwen dearly loved wife of Niel and mother of Jo, Sally, John and Annabel. Requiem mass at St William of York church, Upper Redlands Road, Reading on 5th January at 10.30 am. No flowers by request.

ROUSE - On December 27th, Kathleen Dorothy Rouse of Pattendale, West Byfleet. Cremation at St Johns' crematorium, near Woking on 6th January at 2 o' clock. No flowers, but donations if desired to Guide Dogs for the Blind.

SANDERS - On December 26th 1986, suddenly at Southwell, Nottinghamshire, and of 4 St. Julian's Mount, Cawthorne, South Yorkshire, Marie Elaine, aged 64 years, the dearly loved wife of the late George Henry and the much loved mother of David and Jonathan. Will friends please meet at All Saints Parish church, Cawthorne, for service and interment at 2pm Friday 2nd January 1987. Will friends please accept this intimation.

SIMPSON - On December 30th 1986, peacefully, Dorothy Violet (Doll), aged 86 years (formerly of Ampthill Rd, Shefford), widow of Bert, beloved mother of Margaret Kemp and Dorothy Burrells and Arnold (deceased) and a much loved grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral at Shefford Methodist Church, 2.15 pm on Tuesday January 6th. All enquiries to G. Squire and Sons, Victoria Rd, Shefford. Tel: 0462 813258.

SPEDDING - On December 24th 1986, peacefully at her home in Wittersham, Ethel May Spedding. Funeral at Charing Crematorium, Ashford, Kent at 1.30 pm, Tuesday January 6th 1987. Family flowers only to T.W. Fuggle and Son, 20 Ashford Rd, Tenterden, Kent. Donations to R.N.L.I. for the Rye lifeboat.

VINCENT - On December 24th 1986, peacefully at Weston-super-Mare, Peggy (née Royle) formerly of Bristol and Exeter. Widow of Henry George. Greatly loved by children Jane, Judy, Jon and their families. Funeral service at Worle Crematorium, Weston-super-Mare, Tuesday January 6th 1987 at 11.30am. Flowers to Weston Funeral Services, 27 Baker Street. Tel: Weston-super-Mare 26337.

WALL - On December 30th, Doris Irene Wall MB, ChB, aged 89, widow of Dr Bernard Wall BM, BCH (Oxon). A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at St Peter and St Paul's Church, Coleshill on Monday, January 5th at 1.45 pm. No flowers, but donations, if desired, to St Gerrards Hospital, Coleshill or The Coleshill Civic Society.

WODEHOUSE - On December 24th 1986, peacefully Beaujolois T C aged 97 years. Loving Ma to Beaujolois Cavendish and Valencia and Margi to her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Funeral has taken place. Donations in her memory to The Soil Association, 86 Colston Street, Bristol would be appropriate and appreciated.

WYATT - On December 27th very suddenly at her home in Weston Patrick, Julia Lelle Mervyn (Jill) aged 66, dearly loved by her family and many friends. Cremation family only. There will be a Thanksgiving service later.

Cockroach business from home

Mr Andrew Stephenson, a zoology graduate aged 22, decided to turn his hobby into a business. As a result, his home has become a temporary warehouse storing dozens of insects.

Mr Stephenson, of Laureston, Falkirk, will be supplying cockroaches, crickets, mealworms and locusts to pet shops, zoos and reptile breeders.

He had agreed to give up his pet python, tarantula, and scorpion when he got married. But his difficulties in finding suitable food for them had already inspired his business plan.

Funded by the Royal Bank of Scotland, Mr Stephenson is optimistic. He says demand for live insects, to be fed mainly to reptiles, exceeds supply. He calculates a demand for 100,000 crickets alone each week.

His prize giant cockroaches will not be reptile fodder, however. They will be sold as pets for £1.50 each. Humble crickets will go for £2.50 per 300.

Earl of Stockton

The private funeral service for the Earl of Stockton will be held at the church of St Giles, Horsted Keynes, West Sussex, at noon on Monday, January 5. Details of a memorial service will be announced later. Flowers may be sent to Kenyon Ltd, 74 Rochester Row, London SW1, or the church.

Bravery medal

The Royal Humane Society has awarded the 1986 Stanhope Gold Medal to the Rev Gordon Sonnichsen, aged 42, the Pastor of a Bible Fellowship Church in St Pierre, Manitoba, for his rescue at great personal risk of two infants from a house fire. The children died later in hospital from their burns.

Stockport Grammar School

Events to mark the 500th anniversary of the foundation of Stockport Grammar School in 1487 are published in a programme available from Stockport Grammar School, Stockport, SK2 7AF.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS PIP. - Mum, Dad, Donald, Alison, Susannah.

WENTWORTH-SHEILDS: PATCHTON. Congratulations to Sue and David on your engagement. Love and Best Wishes from Mum and Dad

J.v.S. Here's to health and happiness in 1987 and good communications. Vanilla.

PAUL/SARAH Still loving and missing you both." Happy New Year ". Mum, Ruth and family.

S P C - 1 1 1987 PO BOX 4020, ABUDHABI U.A.E.

TO IRENE, best wishes for '87, love Ken.

BIRTHDAYS

JOHN JAMES MEDLEY, a seventh son of a seventh son, born 1917, a very happy birthday.

LOUISA KATE OWEN - Born January 1st 1887. Daughter of the late Captain Eugene Dunn and Mrs Henrietta Dunn of Lyme Regis, Dorset and Rock Ferry, Cheshire. Congratulations Katie.

ANNIVERSARIES

WIENER - Annabelle and Bob. Thank you for being in London on your anniversary. Be happy dear friends, today and always.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SANGSTER - Mrs Vernon Sangster, widow of the late Vernon Edmund Sangster, and the family wish to express their sincere appreciation and thanks for the many letters and other expressions of sympathy which they have received from relatives, friends, colleagues and business associates which they will always remember with gratitude and which provided such comfort at this time of great sorrow.

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No 008092 of 1986
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF ELSWICK PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 16th December 1986 confirming the cancellation of the Share Premium Account standing in the books of account of the above-named Company as at 30th November 1986 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 18th December 1986

Dated 31st December 1986

Sharpe Pritchard & Co.,
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GENERAL
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ENTERTAINMENTS

CONCERTS

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"Humour at its best, a rich and loving production" Daily Mail "A beautifully shaped family comedy" Times " It will run for a long time" Time Out
Eves Mon - Fri 7.30 Mats Weds 3.0 Sats 5.00 & 8.30 First Call 24 hr 7 day cc 01 240 7200 (no bkg fee) Ticketmaster 01 379 6433 (no bkg fee) Grp Sales 01 930 6123.

AMBASSADORS 01-836 6111 cc 836 1171. First Call (24 hrs/7 days) 240 7200 (bkg fee). Eves 7.30, Wed mat 3, Sat 4 & 8
Royal Shakespeare Company's
LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES
Winner 4 "BEST PLAY" awards
Lindsay Duncan "BEST ACTRESS" Olivier Awards '86

APOLLO THEATRE 437 2663 434 3598 First Call 01-240 7200 Ticketmaster cc 379 6433 Mon-Fri 8, Sat 4.30 & 8.15 Thurs Mats 3.
PAUL SCOFIELD
"MASTERLY" F.Times
HOWARD ROLLINS
"MAGNIFICENT" D.Mail
I'M NOT RAPPAPORT
"Wonderfully funny" D.Exp
TONY AWARD BEST PLAY

APOLLO VICTORIA SS 828 8665 CC 630 6262 Party Bkgs 828 6188 First Call cc (24hr) 240 7200 CC OPEN ALL HOURS 379 6433 Grp Sales 930 6123. Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches. Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0 "A MUSICAL THAT SURPASSES ANYTHING AROUND IN EVERY DIMENSION" D Exp

STARLIGHT EXPRESS
Music by
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER
Lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE
Directed by TREVOR NUNN
APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE FOR RETURNS Special concessions at £5 on Tues mats for OAP's
NOW BOOKING TO SEPT 1987

BARBICAN 01 628 8795/638 8891 cc (Mon-Sun 10am-8pm) **ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY**
BARBICAN THEATRE tickets available **FINAL PERFORMANCES** today & Sat 2.00 & 7.30, tomor 7.30 **SCENES FROM A MARRIAGE** by Feydeau "Magnificent... most enjoyable." D.Tel. **MISALLIANCE** by Shaw returns 5 & 6 Jan
THE PIT today & Sat 2.00 & 7.30, tomor 7.30 **THE ARCHBISHOP'S CEILING** by Arthur Miller. **PRINCIPIA SCRIPTORIAE** by Richard Nelson returns 5 & 6 Jan.

BLOOMSBURY, Gordon St. WC1 387 9629 CC 380 1453. Until Jan 10. Today 2pm & 7pm, Tomor & Mon 2pm. Sat 2pm & 5pm. Tues & Wed 10.30am & 2pm **THE ADVENTURES OF MR TOAD, The Sparkling New Family Musical.** "Consistently catchy tunes" Indep.

CHURCHILL Bromley 460 6677 **DICK WHITTINGTON** Roy Hudd, Roger de Courcey & Nookie Bear, Bill Pertwee, Jimmy Thompson, Lyn Paul.

COMEDY THEATRE 930 2578 CC 240 7200/379 6433/741 9999 Grps 930 6123
"A superb acting partnership" Times
JOHN ALDERTON
GWEN TAYLOR
SUSAN PENHALIGON
THE MAINTENANCE MAN
A Comedy by Richard Harris
"A MARITAL MASTERPIECE —WONDERFULLY FUNNY" N of the W
"The applause of rapturous recognition" D Mail
"Very funny indeed" S.Exp
Mon-Thu 8 Fri/Sat 5.30 & 8.30

COTTESLOE 'S' 928 2252 CC (National Theatre's small auditorium) Ton't, Tomor, 7.30, Sat 2.30 & 7.30 last perfs **THE BAY AT NICE and WRECKED EGGS** by David Hare. Previews Tue 7.30, Wed 2.30 & 7.30. Opens Jan 8 at 7.00. Then Jan 9 at 7.30 & Jan 10 at 2.30 & 7.30 **SOPHIA!**

CRITERION S 930 3216 CC 379 6565/379 6433/741 9999. Grps 836 3962. Evgs 8.00 Thu mat 2.30. Sat 5.30 & 8.30
"BRITISH FARCE AT ITS BEST" D Mail
The Theatre of Comedy Company
DEREK FOWLDS
ROYCE MILLS
ALFRED MARKS
ANITA GRAHAM
JACKI PIPER
SAM COX
RUN FOR YOUR WIFE!
Written and directed by
RAY COONEY
Over 1,600 side-splitting perfs
"SHOULD RUN FOR LIFE" S. Ex
Good seats avail Thurs mats.

DOMINION THEATRE 580 8845/ 9562. ALL 1st CC bkgs **FIRST CALL** 24hr 7 day on 836 2428 **NO BOOKING FEE** Grp Sales 930 6123
DAVE CLARK'S
TIME
THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE
CLIFF RICHARD
AS 'THE ROCK STAR'
THE PORTRAYAL OF 'AKASH'
BY
LAURENCE OLIVIER
Mon-Fri 7.30 Thu Mat 2.30 Sat 4 & 8.15. At Thurs mats only "The Rock Star" will be performed by John Christie **SPECIAL CONCESSIONS** at £7 all perfs except Fri & Sat eves for OAP's, UB40's, students & under 16's avail 1 hr before perf. Reduced prices Thurs mats only £7 & £10
New Booking to April '87.
SEATS AVAIL FOR PERF TON'T

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & CC 01-836 8108, 01-240 9066/7. First Call 24hr 7 day cc bkgs on 01 240 7200 (no bkg fee). Ticketmaster 01 379 6433 (no bkg fee)
David Merrick's
42ND STREET
A SHOW FOR ALL THE FAMILY
Winner of all the best Musical Awards for 1984
voted
BEST MUSICAL
STANDARD DRAMA AWARDS
voted
BEST MUSICAL
LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARD
voted
BEST MUSICAL
PLAYS & PLAYERS
LONDON THEATRE CRITICS AWARD
Evgs 8.0 Mats Wed 3.0, Sat 5.0 & 8.30 Reduced price mat Weds. Students and OAP's standby. Group Sales 930 6123

DONMAR WAREHOUSE 240 8230 cc 379 6565/6433 Til 10 Jan Eves 8pm. Sat Mats 5pm **DORY PREVIN** (Theatre Closed Jan 1)

DUCHESS S 836 8243 CC 240 9648 CC 379 6433 & CC 24 hr/7 day 240 7200 Evgs 8 Wed mat 3 Sat 5 & 8
NO SEX, PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH

DUKE OF YORKS 836 5122/836 9837 24 Hr cc 240 7200 741 9999 379 6433 Eves 8, Thu 3, Sat 5 & 8.30
COMEDY OF THE YEAR
Standard Drama Award 1984
STEPPING OUT
Hit Comedy by Richard Harris
Directed by Julia McKenzie
"TRIUMPH ON TAP" Std
THIRD HILARIOUS YEAR

FORTUNE BO/CC 836 2238/9 Agy F.CALL 7day 24hr 240 7200 (bkg fee) Grps 930 6123.
DONT MISS
First UK stage version
J.R.R. Tolkien's
THE HOBBIT
BKG EXTENDED TO 31 JAN
By public demand
"Spectacular scenes and likeable heroes... imperishable magic" Times
Tues-Fri at 3.00 & 7.30pm Sat at 2.00pm, 5.00 & 8.00pm Sun at 4.30 & 7.30pm

GARRICK S 01 379 6107. 1st call 24/hr 7 day 240 7200. Grp Sales 930 6123. Ticketmaster 379 6433 Eves 7.30, Sat 5 & 8 Mat Tue 3pm
JUDI DENCH
MICHAEL WILLIAMS
"Class of their own" Std
MR and MRS NOBODY
by Keith Waterhouse
Directed by Ned Sherrin
"The best comedy to reach the West End this year" Times
"EVERYBODY MUST SEE THIS NOBODY" D.Mail

GLOBE 437 1592 CC OPEN ALL HOURS 379 6433 1st Call 24 hr 240 7200 (no bkg fee) 741 9999 (no bkg fee) Grp Sales 930 6123. Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches Eves 8 Mats Wed 3 Sat 4
Nominated for
COMEDY OF THE YEAR
Laurence Olivier Awards 1986
LEND ME A TENOR
"If it's laughter you're after... then the fun comes nowhere thicker and faster" Std
A Comedy by Ken Ludwig
Directed by David Gilmore
LAST 2 WEEKS

GLOBE 01-437 3667 cc 741 9999 1st Call 240 7200 24 hr 7 day (bkg fee) Grp Sales 930 6123
From 14 January
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD - Olivier Awards '86
GLENDA JACKSON
JOAN PLOWRIGHT
in Lorca's "thrilling" Obs
THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA
with PATRICIA HAYES
Nuria Espert - Best Director
Standard Drama Awards

GREENWICH THEATRE 01-858 7755. First Call cc 24hrs 240 7200 (bkg fee). Eves 7.45, Mats Sat 2.30. **NIGHT MUST FALL** by Emlyn Williams. "...excellent production continually takes you by surprise" Times "Hugely enjoyable" Ind

HAMPSTEAD 722 9301. Eves 8. Sat Mat 4.30. **SELLING THE SIZZLE, A New Comedy by Peter Gibbs.** "Glorious high-farce performances from Dinsdale Landen and David Threlfall" Times. "Very funny" D.Exp. **MUST END SAT!**

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL Box office & CC 01-930 9832. 1st Call 24hr/7 day cc bkgs 240 7200 Ticketmaster 379 6433 Eves 7.30 Wed & Sat mats 2.30pm
DEREK JACOBI in
"A Truly Mesmerising Performance" S.Times
BREAKING the CODE
by HUGH WHITEMORE
Joanna David
Isabel Dean
Michael Gough
Dir by CLIFFORD WILLIAMS
"THIS HUMAN, HUMANE, SERIOUS AND GRIPPING PLAY... VERY HIGHLY RECOMMENDED" S.Times

HER MAJESTY'S Haymarket 839 2244 CC OPEN ALL HOURS 379 6131 First Call CC 240 7200
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S
AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
Starring
MICHAEL CRAWFORD
SARAH BRIGHTMAN
STEVE BARTON
Claire Moore plays Christine at certain performances
Directed by HAROLD PRINCE
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3
Now Booking to Oct 87, some Wed mats available, please contact box office for returns

LONDON PALLADIUM 437 7373, 741 9999 (no bkg fee). First Call 24 Hr 7 Day CC 240 7200. (NO BKG FEE) Grp Sales 930 6123. Ticketmaster 379 6433
THE HIT MUSICAL COMEDY
GEORGE HEARN
LA CAGE AUX FOLLES
"...A PALLADIUM ROAR OF APPROVAL" S.Tel
Mon-Fri 7.30, Mats Wed 2.00 Sat 2.30 & 8.00
Stdnt concessions avail. at door Mon-Fri & Sat mats
SEATS AVAILABLE FROM £7.50

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 01-741 2311 Eves 7.30 (Box office for details of mats) **ALICE IN WONDERLAND** adapted by John Wells, with music by Carl Davis. **MR SPOON ON BUTTON MOON** (Tel. box office for perf times).
STUDIO Eves 8pm **THE BLUES SUNBIRD.** Box Office Open Jan 1 from 12.00-8pm

LYRIC THEATRE Shaftesbury Ave W1 01-437 3686/7 01-434 1550, 01-434 1050, 01-734 5166/7
COLIN BLAKELY
"A brilliant & joyously comic performance" F. Times
in
The National Theatre's acclaimed production of
ALAN AYCKBOURN'S
A CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL
"Heartbreakingly funny" Gdn
"Hilarious..." S. Times
"A rare evening of comic exhilaration" Times
Evgs 7.30, Mats Wed and Sat 3.0
Group Sales 01-930 6123. Reduced price mats Student & OAP Stand-by
First Call 24hr 7 day cc bookings on 01 240 7200 (no booking fee) Ticketmaster 01 379 6433 (no booking fee)
WINNER OF ALL THE BEST COMEDY AWARDS FOR 1985
NOW BOOKING UNTIL APRIL

LYTTELTON 'S' 928 2252 CC (National Theatre's proscenium stage) Ton't 7.45 **TONS OF MONEY** by Will Evans and Valentine. Previews Tomor, Sat Mon, Tue 7.45. Opens Wed at 7.00. Then Jan 8 at 7.45 **COMING IN TO LAND.** (Jan 7 & 8 SOLD OUT)

MAYFAIR S CC 629 3036. Mon-Thu 8 Fri/Sat 5.40 & 8.10
RICHARD TODD in
"The Best Thriller for years" S M
THE BUSINESS OF MURDER
"An unabashed winner" S Exp
"Sensational" Times
7TH THRILLING YEAR

MAYFAIR
SORRY ALL SEATS SOLD
SOOTY'S XMAS SHOW
SEE YOU NEXT YEAR

MERMAID THEATRE 01-236 5568 24hr cc 240 7200/ 379 6433/741 9999 Grp Sls 930 6123
Kenneth Grahame's wonderful
THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS
Twice daily 2 & 6.
Ends January 10

NATIONAL THEATRE Sth Bank
NATIONAL THEATRE COMPANY
See **SEPARATE ENTRIES** under **OLIVIER/LYTTELTON/ COTTESLOE.** Excellent cheap seats days of perfs all theatres from 10 am. **RESTAURANT** (928 2033). **EASY CAR PARK**, Info 633 0880

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 405 0072 CC OPEN ALL HOURS 379 6433 Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches. Eves 7.45 Tue & Sat 3.00 & 7.45
THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER / T.S. ELIOT MUSICAL
CATS
APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE FOR RETURNS Group Bookings 01 405 1567 or 01 930 6123. **NOW BOOKING TO MAY 30 1987.** Extra mat Jan 2 at 3pm. Seats available in Jan

OLD VIC 928 7616 cc 261 1821 **Previews from 14 Jan.** Opens 20 Jan at 7pm
MALCOLM McDOWELL
MARY STEENBURGEN
CHERIE LUNGHI
FRANK GRIMES
and
GEOFFREY BURRIDGE in
HOLIDAY
a comedy by Philip Barry
Dir by LINDSAY ANDERSON

OLD VIC 928 7616 cc 261 1821 Eves 7.30, Wed Mats 2.30, Sats 4.00 & 7.45
MARIA AITKEN
JUDI BOWKER
FAITH BROOK
BARBARA EWING
JULIA FOSTER
GEORGINA HALE
PATTI LOVE
DIANA QUICK
ZENA WALKER
and
SUSANNAH YORK in
THE WOMEN
by Clare Boothe Luce
"All female ritzy extravaganza" FT. "DELICIOUSLY FUNNY" Times. "Witty, wicked women's world" S Exp. "STYLISH, STAR-STUDDED PRODUCTION" D Mirror
LAST 2 WEEKS - MUST END JAN 10

OLIVIER 'S' 928 2252 CC (National Theatre's open stage) Ton't 7.15 **THE AMERICAN CLOCK** a vaudeville by Arthur Miller Tomor 7.15, Sat 2.00 (low price mat) & 7.15 **ANIMAL FARM** Mon, Tue, Wed 7.00 prompt **KING LEAR.** Tue, Wed 10.30am & 2.00 **THE PIED PIPER.**

PALACE THEATRE 434 0909 cc OPEN ALL HOURS 379 6433 First Call 24Hr 7Day cc 240 7200 Grp Sales 930 6123. Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches
THE MUSICAL SENSATION
LES MISERABLES
"IF YOU CAN'T GET A TICKET - STEAL ONE!" Sm
Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30
Latecomers not admitted until the interval
BEAT THE TOUTS BY ENQUIRING FOR RETURNS AT THE BOX OFFICE.
Now booking to Sept '87

PRINCE EDWARD Box Office 734 8951 First Call 24 Hr 7 Days cc Booking 836 3464 Grp Sales 930 6123. Mon-Sat 7.30 Mats Thurs & Sat 2.30
CHESS
"A GRAND MASTER OF A SHOW" Newsweek
Now booking to March 28, 1987
MAT SEATS SOMETIMES AVAILABLE ON DAY

PRINCE OF WALES W1 930 8681 /2 cc Hotline 930 0844/5/6. Grp Sales 930 6123. Keith Prowse 741 9999. Ticketmaster 379 6433 First Call 24 hour, 7 day (NO BKG FEE) 240 7200
'ALLO 'ALLO
with the TV SHOW STARS
"It's all sauce at the café of laughs" D Exp. Eves 8, Fri & Sat 5.30 & 8.40
NOW BOOKING TO 30 MAY

QUEEN'S 01-734 1166/1167/ 0261/0120 24hr cc 240 7200/ 379 6433. Grp Sales 930 6123.
"THE BEST MUSICAL IN LONDON" Gdn
"A WONDERFUL STAR" Mail
MAUREEN LIPMAN in
LEONARD BERNSTEIN'S
WONDERFUL TOWN!
"It ripples with excitement" S.Times "Just wonderful" D.Exp
Mon-Sat 8 Mats Wed 2.30 Sat 5

ROYALTY 01-831 0660 24hr cc 240 7200 379 6433 741 9999 Group Sales 930 6123
JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT
Twice daily at 2.30 & 7.30
Ends January 17

SAVOY THEATRE 01 836 8888. CC 379 6219, 836 0479. First Call 24 hr 7 day (no bkg fee) 240 7200. Keith Prowse 741 9999 (no bkg fee) Grp Sales 930 6123. Eves Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 5 & 8.30. Wed Mat 3pm
PATRICK MACNEE
DAVID LANGTON
JENNIE LINDEN
& LIZ ROBERTSON in
A Mystery Thriller for all the Family
KILLING JESSICA
Directed by BRYAN FORBES
"Ranking with 'Sleuth' for surprise & ingenuity" D.Mail "In the time-honoured manner of an Agatha Christie thriller" Std
"THIS SHOW IS A SURE-FIRE WINNER" Listener

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE OF COMEDY 01 379 5399 CC 01 379 6433/ 741 9999.. First Call 24 hr 240 7200 (bkg fee) Grp Sales 930 6123
Mon-Fri 8, Wed 3, Sat 5.15 & 8.30
THE THEATRE OF COMEDY CO'S
lavish new production
TOM CONTI in
AN ITALIAN STRAW HAT
by Eugene Labiche
with CLIVE DUNN
and STRATFORD JOHNS

ST MARTIN'S 01-836 1443. Special CC No. 379 6433. Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45, Sat 5.0 and 8.0
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP

STRAND 836 2660 CC 836 4143/5190, 741 9999. First Call 24 Hr 7 Day cc 240 7200 (no bkg fee) Grp Sales 930 6123
CABARET
"The sharpest, most sophisticated, most rhythmic musical now running in the West End" Std
Starring
WAYNE SLEEP
Directed & Choreographed by Gillian Lynne
Mon-Fri 7.45, Mat Wed 3.00 Sat 4.30 & 8.15
OAP REDUCED PRICES MATS. BOOKING NOW UP TO APRIL '87
Spec perf New Year's Eve 7pm

STRATFORD UPON AVON (0789) 295623. **ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY** at 'RST'. Winter's Tale Today 1.30, Richard II Tonight, Tomor 7.30. Dream Sat 1.30, Macbeth Sat 7.30. Swan Theatre, Fair Maid Tonight, Tomor, Sat 7.30. Rover Sat 1.30.

THEATRE OF COMEDY COMPANY
"The very best of Britain's comic talent" Daily Mail
See separate entries under:
CRITERION THEATRE
SHAFTESBURY THEATRE OF COMEDY

VAUDEVILLE Box Office & CC. 836 9987/5645 First call CC. 24 hrs 240 7200 (bkg fee) Ticketmaster 379 6433 (bkg fee). Evgs 8.0. Mats Wed 2.30. Sat 5.0, 8.30.
JULIA McKENZIE
BEST ACTRESS OF THE YEAR
Standard Drama Award
MARTIN JARVIS
PETER BLYTHE
JOSEPHINE TEWSON in
ALAN AYCKBOURN'S New Play
WOMAN IN MIND
"THIS MUST BE THE FUNNIEST PLAY IN LONDON, IT IS ALSO THE MOST DISTURBING" S.Tel
"ALAN AYCKBOURN IS WRITING AT HIS BEST" S.Times

VICTORIA PALACE 01-834 1317 Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.45
EXTRA XMAS MATINEES
January 1 & 2 24hr 7 day cc bkgs (no extra charge) on FIRST CALL 240 7200 "A NIGHT OF SHEER SONG & DANCE MAGIC" Wkly News
CHARLIE GIRL
ONLY 2 WEEKS LEFT TO SEE THIS FABULOUS CAST. LAST PERF JAN 10
PAUL NICHOLAS
CYD CHARISSE
DORA BRYAN
NICHOLAS PARSONS
MARK WYNTER in
CHARLIE GIRL
GROUP SALES 01 930 6123
BIG PARTY DISCOUNTS
Also book, Ticketmaster 379 6433 or any W H Smith Travel Branch

VICTORIA PALACE Book now through First Call exclusively 01 240 7200 24hr 7 day
TREVOR EVE
STEPHEN REA
NATASHA RICHARDSON
ANGELA RICHARDS
HIGH SOCIETY
Directed by Richard Eyre
Prevs Feb 13 1st Night Feb 25
Mon-Fri 7.45 Wed Mat 3 Sat 4.45 & 8.15. Gp Sales 930 6123

WESTMINSTER 01 834 0283/4 cc 834 0048, cc Ticketmaster 379 6433. Mon-Sat 3.00 & 6.30
Magical Season
THE LION, THE WITCH & THE WARDROBE
by C.S. Lewis

WHITEHALL off Trafalgar Sq 01 930 7765/ 839 4455 CC 01 379 6565/379 6433, 741 9999 Grp sales 930 6123/836 3962
JULIE WALTERS
SHEILA REID
GERALDINE JAMES
JOHN GORDON SINCLAIR
The Award Winning Comedy
WHEN I WAS A GIRL I USED TO SCREAM & SHOUT
by Sharman Macdonald
Directed by Simon Stokes
"ONE OF THE FUNNIEST PLAYS OF RECENT YEARS" Obs
Eves 8, Wed mat 3.
Sats 5.30 & 8.30

WYNDHAM'S S 836 3028 cc 379 6565/Ticketmaster 379 6433/1st Call 24hr 7 days 240 7200/741 9999/Grp Sales 930 6123/836 3962. Eves 7.30, Sat mats 3
For a limited season
"A performance unparalleled in the West End" Independent.
VANESSA REDGRAVE
TOM WILKINSON in
The Young Vic production of
GHOSTS
By Henrik Ibsen
Directed by David Thacker
"BRILLIANT PRODUCTION. DON'T MISS" City Limits

ART GALLERIES

BARBICAN ART GALLERY, Barbican Centre, EC2 01-638 4141. Until 4 Jan: **David Roberts (1796-1864): paintings of Europe & the Near East PLUS Lion Rugs** by nomadic Fars tribewomen. Tues - Sat 10-6.45, Sun & B Hols 12-5.45. Closed Mondays. (Open 1 Jan 12-5.45) Adm:£2 & £1.

HAYWARD GALLERY, South Bank, SE1. **RODIN and BOYLE FAMILY** Exhibitions. Closed 1 Jan. Adm. £3.00/£1.50. Recorded info : 01-261 0127.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM - The National Museum of Art & Design, S. Kensington. **NEW TOSHIBA GALLERY OF JAPANESE ART. EYE FOR INDUSTRY**: Royal Designers for Industry 1936-1986. Recorded info 01 581 4894. Wkdys 10 - 5.50. Suns 2.30 - 5.50. Closed Fridays & 1 Jan.

ZAMANA GALLERY, 1 Cromwell Gardens, SW7 584 6612. **ISTANBUL** - A Photographic Journey through Turkish Architecture Until 18 Jan. Tue-Sat 10-5.30. Sun 12-5.30

CINEMAS

CAMDEN PLAZA opp Camden Town Tube 485 2443. **DAVID BOWIE** in **LABYRINTH** (U). Film at 2.00 4.10 6.20 8.35. Reduced tickets for children.

CHELSEA CINEMA Kings Road SW3. 351 3742 **MEN** (15). Film at 2.25 4.30 6.40 8.55 ENDS Thurs. STARTS Fri 2 Jan Chabrol's **INSPECTUER LAVARDIN** (15)

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 499 3737 Claude Lanzmann's **SHOAH** (PG) Part 1 Tues & Thurs 6.45 Sats 11.30am & 5.45 Part 2 Mon, Wed & Fri 5.45 Sundays Part 1 at 11.30am Part 2 at 5.45 "Totally absorbing...see the film" Std. Ends Jan 8

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 439 4805. Maggie Smith, Denholm Elliott, Judi Dench in **A ROOM WITH A VIEW** (PG). Film at 1.30 (Not Sun), 3.45, 6.10 & 8.40 "A film as near to perfection as it's possible to conceive" Alexander Walker, Std.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE 930 5252 (Enq)/930 7615 (24 hr Access/ Visa/ AmEx Bookings) **CROCODILE DUNDEE** (15) in Dolby Stereo. Sep progs Daily 1.10 3.40 6.15 8.50 Late Night Show Nightly 11.45pm. All progs bookable in advance.

LUMIERE CINEMA St Martin's Lane WC2. 379 3014/ 836 0691 **'ROUND MIDNIGHT** (15) Film at 1.00 3.30 6.00 8.35. Late show Fri and Sat 11.15pm

MINEMA 45 **KNIGHTSBRIDGE** 235 4225 **A ROOM WITH A VIEW** (PG) Daily: 2.30 4.45 7.00 9.15. Seats bookable in advance for 7.00 & 9.15 ONLY. Cinema closed: 31 DEC & 1 JAN.

ODEON HAYMARKET (839 7697) **MONA LISA** (18) Sep progs Daily 2.15 6.00 8.40. All seats bookable in advance. Access and Visa telephone bookings welcome.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) Info 930 4250 / 4259. **LABYRINTH** (U) Sep progs Doors open Daily 2.15 5.15 8.15. All progs bookable in advance. Credit Card Hot Line (Access/ Visa/ AmEx) 930 3232/ 839 1929. 24 hour service £2.50 seats available Monday all perfs

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (723 2011) Walt Disney Pictures Presents **BASIL THE GREAT MOUSE DETECTIVE** (U) Sep progs Doors open Daily 2.45 5.15 7.45. Reduced prices for OAP's, UB40 holders, Student card holders, Under 16's

RENOIR opp Russell Sq. Tube 837 8402. (1) **FANNY & ALEXANDER** (15) Film at 3.15 7.15 (2) **ROSA LUXEMBURG** (PG) Film at 1.00 3.30 6.00 8.35

Search for the £10,000 busmen

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

London Regional Transport, which is short of 600 bus drivers, is to mount a major campaign to attract recruits to the £10,000-a-year jobs.

Local recruitment centres are being set up in bus districts in an attempt to hire drivers whose basic £197 a week can be considerably boosted by overtime payments.

London Buses said yesterday, however, that many people appeared to be put off because of the unsocial hours bus drivers are inevitably expected to work.

It is hoped to complete recruiting by late spring or early summer.

The local centres are being set up for people who do not want to travel to the main recruiting office in central London.

London Buses said it had more than 13,000 drivers and it was not unusual to be short of drivers. The shortfall had already been reduced by about 100 since last summer.

The number of driver-only buses is gradually being increased, and by spring 1988 they are expected to account for about 80 per cent of all services, as against about 75 per cent at present.

It is thought that relatively few conductors have been exercising the option to train as drivers.

London Buses said it was now down to a nucleus of conductors, most of whom would probably have converted to driving some time ago had they wished to do so.

1927 prices will suit customers

By Guy Ker

Undaunted by a general decline in sartorial standards, the proprietor of a London menswear store is to celebrate 60 years at the same address by selling a shop-window full of clothes at 1927 prices.

A sports jacket which normally retails for £60 will be on sale for £1.78, or 35 shillings and six pence in 1927 currency, while a wool rain-coat which should cost £65 will be sold for a mere £1.88 when Mr John Bragg, aged 73, opens on Saturday.

He started at the shop in Ballards Lane, North Finchley, when he was 14 for nine shillings a week after the general strike of 1926 left his impoverished parents with no option but to send as many of their 10 children as they could out to work. He bought the shop from his employer in 1968.

He said: "People stay with us. We still sell old-fashioned woollen pants and vests. But the suit trade has gone. Shops like mine havechanged to casual wear."

But as the queue forms tomorrow night (one item only per customer), Mr Bragg's mind might well stray back to the days when you could tell a man from the cut of his cloth.

"There's nothing like a gentleman in a suit," he sighed (Photograph: Nick Rogers).

Wright Brothers 'not first to fly'

Continued from page 1

many pioneers around the turn of the century who were trying to get an aircraft to fly – and he apparently did not succeed."

But the Connecticut team have gathered 10 filing cabinets full of details of Whitehead – born Gustav Weisskopf in Leutershausen, Germany.

They show how he left Germany when aged 15 and travelled widely in America studying hot air balloons, gliders and birds and experimenting with heavier than air aircraft.

One of his early efforts, driven by a steam engine, crashed against a wall and he was forced to switch his attention to an acetylene engine.

In the end he built an aircraft with three such engines linked to two large propellers, and with wings which folded so that it could be driven out of his yard and onto a nearby field.

Then, on August 14, 1901, say the researchers, he took off and flew for more than half a mile at a height never less than 3ft above the ground.

The evidence lies not only in his own papers, recently discovered in an attic in Fairfield, Connecticut but in a yellowing newspaper cutting discovered at the same time.

The Bridgeport Sunday Herald carried a full page account, complete with drawing of the craft describing how the plane "soared through the air for fully half a mile and settled down from a height of about 50ft after the propellers stopped."

Fighting in Beirut set to drag on

Continued from page 1

The new year in Lebanon looked like being no better than the old one. It certainly seemed that way to the young man with the thick, dark beard in the Amal office down the road from the shattered mosque. He sat at a desk before a pile of sandbags and an old, monochrome picture of Mr Berri. "I don't want you to use my name," he said, as three equally anonymous and bearded youths sat down on the torn plastic chairs beside him, a cluster of Kalashnikov rifles piled behind the dusty cupboard in the corner.

"The situation is bad. It is a dirty war," the young man said. "Abu Amar (Arafat) has been preparing this war for years, especially against Amal." All the while, the man stared towards the floor. The only time he smiled was when I asked him his age. "I am young, otherwise I couldn't do this job," he said. "I am a football coach. I have played for Lebanon."

There was little sport to be had in fighting the Palestinians, however. To the Shias of Bourj el-Barajneh, it is a war against non-Lebanese. "Not all of them," the football coach insisted. "The Palestinians are our brothers. But not the men who follow Arafat. We are involved in this war because we are defending our country, because we are Lebanese.They are not. A geographical war will give the Palestinians a land in Lebanon."

The teacher began writing on two sheets of paper, frowning with concentration as he did so. It was his official statement. "We are committed to our ceasefire," he wrote. "We won't return fire unless it is in self-defence. This is what Nabih Berri said. We want to remind Arafat that we are not his enemy. Israel is . . . Let them (the Palestinians) forget the order they were given (by Arafat) to fight Amal – then we can fight hand-in-hand against Israel."

There was no mention of Syria – in whose interest it is that Amal should crush the re-emergent PLO – but Amal did appear to be obeying its own ceasefire. Up at the grey concrete mosque on the airport road, two T-54 tanks stood forlornly in a patch of mud, their crews sipping tea on the other side of the road. A group of Amal gunmen waved cars through their checkpoint without interest. It was as if no-one really believed in the war.

Letter from East Berlin

Revellers wage war across wall

It is not the beginning of World War Three. The purple flashes, the red sprays and whistling ricochets exploding over the Berlin Wall are just the harmless, pointless, money-into-smoke fireworks of the German New Year.

But for Berlin, 1987 is more than a few colourful explosions over a wall: it is a year of East-West competition in which both sides of the divided city try to celebrate to maximum political effect the 750th birthday of the old German capital.

Just beyond the minefields, the dog-runs and the barbed wire, the East German symphony orchestra today fires the first shot with a gala concert. The comrades have taken their bow ties from their drawers, East Berlin hairdressers have been booked solid from 8 am to 8 pm, baby sitters are charging the equivalent of a week's wages and hangovers have been laid aside so that the cream of society can begin the year-long celebrations.

More will follow. The museum island, so close to the wall that it almost forms part of it, has been given a facelift and the galleries have been prepared to receive huge art loans from the Kremlin, Budapest and Florence.

Several parades, including a torch-lit procession of 40,000 marchers, are being rehearsed, music being composed, operas being planned, and according to the East German press, at least one book about Berlin and its heritage will appear every working day of 1987.

For about two years, building labourers have been brought to East Berlin from the provinces and housed in make-shift barracks while they restore and reconstruct the grand and virtually derelict churches and houses in the city centre. More than 30,000 workers have been involved, setting back the building programme elsewhere in the country. Most ordinary East Germans, however, do not begrudge the effort: they are genuinely proud of their capital, their half-city.

The West gets off to a slower start. There is less money available; bigger political problems to be resolved; and the simple shame-faced question, which never seems to be asked in the East, to be answered – Does Berlin, the German capital that was also Hitler's capital, cruelly divided in 1961, have anything to celebrate?

There will be exhibitions, of course, a circus, more fireworks. But the current absurd discussion – about whether the Bulgarian artist Christo should be allowed, in the name of art, to wrap up the Reichstag in a plastic parcel – says much about the way the West is treating its half of the party.

It is all, of course, about politics.

The West regards East Berlin as the Soviet sector of the city, which since the war has been parcelled out between Britain, France, the US and the Soviet Union.

As far as Western soldiers are concerned, East Berlin really is just the Soviet sector. Ferried through Checkpoint Charlie in special military buses, they can and do go shopping in East Berlin supermarkets.

The East Germans, however, can hardly utter the word Berlin without affixing the label "capital of the German Democratic Republic." Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader who is probably serving his last term as party chief, sees his great contribution to history as asserting the permanent status of East Germany and the creation of East Berlin as its functioning capital.

Almost every element of his foreign policy has been geared towards this: from building the Berlin wall in 1961 to now demanding that West Germany recognize East German citizenship. To this end he has invited the mayor of West Berlin, Herr Berhard Diepgen, to cross the wall and celebrate the 750th birthday in the capital of East Germany.

Can Herr Diepgen accept without admitting that East Berlin is a separate communist city? It is all very complicated and West Berlin would rather worry about Christo's plans to package the Reichstag.

Herr Honecker, it is said, nurtures a dream that the birthday will lead to a renaissance in East-West German relations and that a much postponed visit to Bonn could take place in early autumn. If the Russians send a high-ranking man to celebrate the anniversary then the message will be clear: Herr Honecker can have his visit.

Roger Boyes

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Last chance to see

Looking Into Pictures – Portraits; Castle Museum, Nottingham, 10 to 4.45.

Music

The Magic of Vienna with the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra: St David's Hall, The Hayes, Cardiff, 7.30.

Songs from Vienna with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra: Winter Gardens, 3.

Popular organ recital; Norwich Cathedral, 11.

New Year's Day concert by St Albans Symphony Orchestra: the Cathedral, 7.

Funtasia '87 with the LSO: Barbican Centre, Silk St, EC2, 3.

Viennese Evening with the LSO: Barbican Centre, Silk St, EC2, 7.45.

New Year's Day Early Music and Baroque concert: Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore St, W1, 7.30.

London Festival Ballet, *The Nutcracker*; Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1, 3 and 7.30.

By George It's Gershwin; Purcell Room, South Bank, SE1, 8.

General

Antiques Fair; Seaford College, West Sussex, 1 to 9.

Folk singaround; the Black Swan Inn, Peasholme Green, York, 8.30.

Snow Queen; Regent Centre, High St, Christchurch, Dorset, 7.30.

New Year Steaming: Great Western Society 25; Didcot Railway Centre, 11 to dusk.

Mincepie Special: special New Year's Day steaming including mince pies; Midland Railway Centre, Butterley Station, Ripley, Derbyshire, 1 to 5.

Fantastic Mr Fox; Gardner Arts Centre, Sussex University, Falmer, Brighton, 2.30 or 6.

Mounting of The Queen's Life Guard by The Household Cavalry; Horse Guards, Whitehall; depart Hyde Park Barracks, 10.27. Mounting of The Queen's Guard at Wellington Barracks by the 2/2 Gurkha Rifles accompanied by the Gurkha Rifles regimental band; Wellington Barracks, SW1, 11. There will be no mounting in very wet weather.

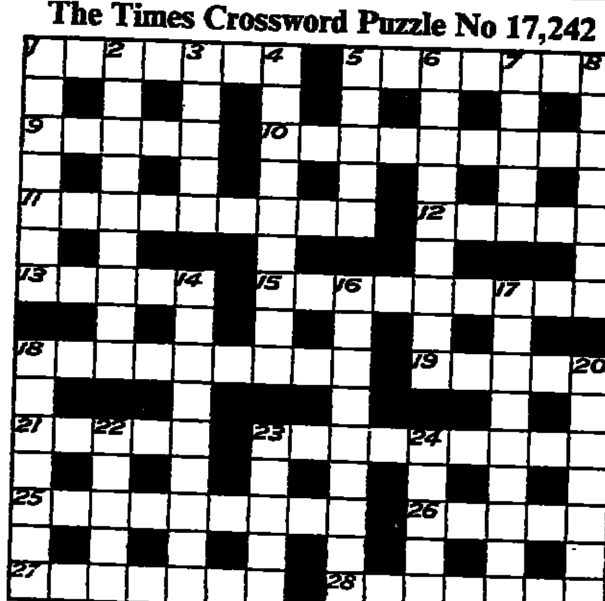
Hangover on Hampstead Heath: London Hash House Harriers' run; car park of Jack Straws Castle, Heath Brow, NW3, 5.30 pm.

New Year Steaming: GWR preservation group, Southall Railway Centre, Merrick Rd, 11 to 5.

The Big Parade with 13 marching bands, decorated floats and other exhibits; Berkeley St, Piccadilly and Regent St, W1, 12.30 start.

Model Engineer Exhibition; Wembley Conference Centre, Empire Way; 10 to 7.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,242



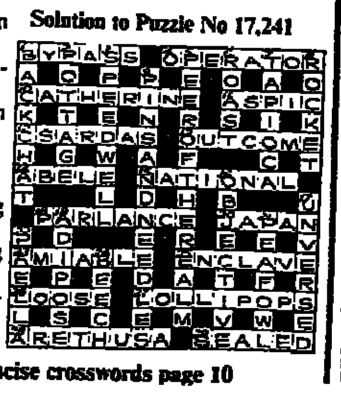
ACROSS

1 Norm remits rent to his mate (7).
5 What's to be done when a king gets on his hind legs . . . ? (7).
9 . . . and holds the French to be less formal? (5).
10 Seneca one of this brave family (9).
11 Failure to notice surveillance (9).
12 Dolly's musical greeting (5).
13 Authorisation here to reverse the hour glass (5).
15 Not recognised, having no precedent (7-2).
18 He controls the movements of the little people (9).
19 Stitches causing strain, we hear (5).
21 Made an example of depressed characters (5).
23 Turn angry, having first tried the food (9).
25 A broomstick is misused by women (9).
26 Thrust from air intake an eye-opener (5).
27 Sum for patentee of sovereign remedy? (7).
28 Relinquish a position in home for alcoholics (7).

DOWN

1 Where to sit when milking cows (7).
2 Chart useful at Mafeking (7,3).
3 Clumsy Saxon bearing operatic heroine here (5).
4 Measuring device for cats and dogs (4-6).
5 A division of the Yard is moving (5).
6 Disorderly actors are plastered (9).
7 King in Elia's characters from Shakespeare? No, Duke's servant (5).
8 What to do when a player offends badly (3-4).
14 Monotonous routine in prison (9).
16 Marx perhaps, Nero maybe, Queequeg certainly (9).
17 The decline of exotic rhythm (9).
18 Chukka, say, involving this player (7).
20 Over-indulge in a salad of Oriental fruits (7).
22 Greedy kind of bank, this (5).
23 Sort of field familiar to an Irishman (5).
24 Red Sea opening for the Israelites (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 17,241



Times Jumbo and Concise crosswords page 10

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.29	2.17
Austria Sch	21.00	19.80
Belgium Fr	62.80	59.20
Canada $	2.09	2.00
Denmark Kr	11.27	10.67
Finland Mkk	7.49	6.99
France Fr	9.80	9.30
Germany Dm	2.98	2.81
Greece Dr	236	216
Hong Kong $	11.70	11.20
Ireland Pt	1.10	1.04
Italy Lira	2080	1980
Japan Yen	247	233
Netherlands Gld	3.365	3.175
Norway Kr	11.35	10.75
Portugal Esc	223	211
South Africa Rd	5.00	4.00
Spain Pta	200	190
Sweden Kr	10.38	9.83
Switzerland Fr	2.49	2.35
USA $	1.53	1.46
Yugoslavia Dnr	820	720

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 391.7

London: The *FT* index closed up 5.3 at 1313.9.

Our address

Information for inclusion in The Times Information service should be sent to: The Editor, TTIS, The Times, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London, E1 9XN.

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending December 21:

BBC 1

1 EastEnders (Thurs/Sun) 24.30m
2 EastEnders (Tues/Sun) 21.90m
3 Just Good Friends 15.20m
4 Crimewatch UK 14.75m
5 Tomorrow's World Christmas Quiz 12.60m
6 Oliver 12.30m
7 A Question of Sport (exc. Northern Ireland) 12.20m
8 'Allo 'Allo 11.5m
9 The Paul Daniels Magic Show 10.55m
10 Casualty 10.45m

ITV

1 Blind Date LWT 15.90m
2 Coronation Street (Mon) Granada 15.75m
3 Coronation Street (Wed) Granada 14.90m
4 North and South (Sun) ITV 14.00m
5 Crossroads (Tues) Central 12.95m
6 3-2-1/Christmas at Toad Hall Yorkshire 12.95m
7 North and South (Fri) ITV 11.95m
8 Laughs From Her Majesty's LWT 11.85m
9 North and South (Mon) ITV 11.75m
10 Celebrity Play Your Cards Right LWT 11.75m

BBC2

1 Victoria Wood - As Seen On TV 6.40m
2 M.A.S.H 6.35m
3 All Passion Spent (Tues/Sat) 5.10m
4 Cool It 5.00m
5 Nurses 4.90m
6 Return of the Gunfighter 4.45m
7 Food and Drink Christmas Special (exc. Scotland) 4.35m
8 Star Trek 4.2m
9 The Travel Show Christmas Special 4.20m
10 No Limits (Tues/Sun) 4.20m
10 Entertainment Usa 4.20m

Channel 4

1 Brookside (Tues/Sat) 6.50m
2 Brookside (Mon/Sat) 6.45m
3 Thursday's Child 4.75m
4 Soap Aid 4.15m
5 American Football 3.95m
6 Golden Girls 3.55m
7 A Day To Remember 3.55m
8 Countdown (Thurs) 3.40m
9 Countdown (Fri) 3.30m
10 Countdown (Wed) 3.20

Breakfast television: The average weekly figures for audiences at peak times (with figures in parenthesis showing the reach - the number of people who viewed for at least three minutes):

BBC1: *Breakfast Time*: Mon to Fri 1.1m (5.7m)

TV-am: *Good Morning Britain* Mon to Fri 2.7m (11.0m) Sat 3.0m (7.2m) Sun 2.6m

Broadcasters' Audience Research Board.

Kew Gardens

The charge for admission to Kew Gardens is to be 50p from today and an annual season ticket will cost £5.Children under 10, accompanied by an adult, and organized school parties will continue to be admitted free.

From tomorrow the gardens will open at 9.30 each day and close between 4 to 6.30 on weekdays, and 4 to 8 on Sundays and Bank holidays depending on the sunset.

Voting on holiday

From today holidaymakers and others who cannot get to a polling station can apply to vote by post or proxy.

Application forms and leaflets explaining the new provisions will be available from electoral registration officers, who can be contacted through the local district or London borough council offices.

Roads

London and the South-east: A124: Single line traffic between Burges Rd and Abbey Rd, Barking. A315: Delays at Earls Ct Rd, Kensington High St. A6: Roadworks and temporary lights at Ampthill Rd, Bedford.

The Midlands: M5: Two lanes in each direction between junctions 5 and 6 (Droitwich/Worcester) and lane closures between junctions 4 and 8 (Bromsgrove/M50). M50 Hereford and Worcester: Contraflow E of junction 4 (A449/Ross on Wye). M54: Lane closures between junctions 2 and 7 (Wolverhampton/Wellington).

Wales and the west: A38: Lane closures in both directions at top of Haldon Hill between Exeter and Plymouth. A4: Temporary lights along the causeway, Chippenham. A55 Gwynedd: Lights in use 24 hours at Penmaenmawr between Llanfairfechan and Conwy.

The North: M1: Delays between junctions 31 and 33 (Worksop/Rotherham). M6 Lancashire: Contraflow between junctions 29 and 32 (Preston/M55 interchange). M63 Greater Manchester: Restrictions between junctions 1 and 7 (M62/A57).

Scotland: A803: One lane northbound at Bishopbriggs Cross towards Kirkintilloch. A82: Single line traffic and temporary lights S of Ardlui, Dunbartonshire. A94: Single line traffic with temporary lights at Scone Rd, Perthshire.

Anniversaries

Births: **Edmund Burke**, 1729; **Maria Edgeworth**, novelist, 1767; **Sir James Frazer**, anthropologist, 1854; **E. M. Forster**, novelist, 1879.

Deaths: **William Wycherley**, dramatist, 1716; **Johann Bernoulli**, mathematician, 1748; **Sir Edwin Lutyens**, architect, 1944; **Maurice Chevalier**, 1972.

The Daily Universal Register was first published, 1785; its title was changed to *The Times* on this day in 1788.

Britain entered the Common Market, 1973.

Portfolio
—Gold—

Portfolio - how to play
Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.

Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.

If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim

Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 0254-53272 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, on the day your overall total matches The Times Portfolio Dividend. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims line between the stipulated times.

No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated hours.

The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

WEATHER

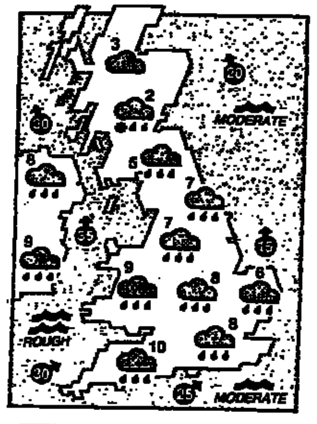
A depression near Ireland will move NE and attendant fronts will cross most of Britain. Some eastern parts of England and Scotland may be dry at first but much of the day will be dull and wet and over northern hills some sleet or snow is likely. In N Ireland, Wales and western counties of England, after a wet morning with heavy rain at times, brighter showery weather will follow during the afternoon. Mild in most places but rather cold in N Scotland. Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Bright spells, but some showers or longer outbreaks of rain in the N with snow on hills. Colder.

HIGH TIDES

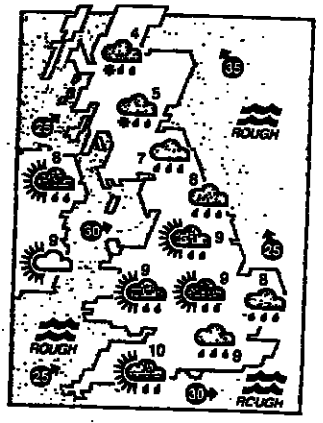
TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.12	6.8	2.37	7.2
Aberdeen	1.45	4.4	1.55	4.5
Avonmouth	7.54	13.3	8.20	13.1
Belfast	11.29	3.8	11.58	3.5
Cardiff	7.39	12.2	8.05	12.1
Devonport	6.34	5.6	7.08	5.4
Dover	11.39	6.6	-	-
Falmouth	6.04	5.4	6.38	5.2
Glasgow	1.01	4.8	1.21	5.1
Harwich	12.07	3.9	12.32	4.1
Holyhead	10.49	5.8	11.22	5.6
Hull	6.56	7.4	7.09	7.5
Ilfracombe	6.31	9.4	6.57	9.3
Leith	3.01	5.7	3.19	5.7
Liverpool	11.50	9.7	-	-
Lowestoft	10.02	2.5	10.09	2.6
Margate	12.14	4.7	12.45	4.8
Milford Haven	6.50	7.3	7.19	7.1
Newquay	5.40	7.2	6.09	7.1
Oban	6.23	4.2	6.51	3.9
Penzance	5.31	5.7	6.08	5.5
Portland	7.41	2.4	8.13	2.2
Portsmouth	-	-	12.01	4.7
Shoreham	11.44	6.4	-	-
Southampton	11.23	4.5	Midnt	4.6
Swansea	6.56	9.7	7.23	9.5
Tees	4.13	5.5	4.24	5.7
W'ton-on-Nze	-	-	12.24	4.3

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 4.32 pm to 7.36 am
Bristol 4.42 pm to 7.46 am
Edinburgh 4.19 pm to 8.14 am
Manchester 4.30 pm to 7.55 am
Penzance 5.00 pm to 7.51 am

Sun rises: 8.06 am
Sun sets: 4.02 pm
Moon rises 9.53 am
Moon sets 5.28 pm
First quarter January 6

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	-	.02	6	43	cloudy
Bridlington	-	.06	7	45	shower
Cromer	*				
Lowestoft	3.2	-	10	50	sunny
Clacton	0.8	-	10	50	cloudy
Southend	0.1	-	10	50	cloudy
Margate	*	-	10	50	bright
Folkestone	0.3	.17	10	50	cloudy
Hastings	0.3	.17	10	50	cloudy
Eastbourne	0.6	.17	10	50	cloudy
Brighton	0.5	.15	9	48	cloudy
Worthing	0.3	.24	10	50	cloudy
Littlehmptn	0.6	.26	11	52	bright
Bognor R	1.2	.33	11	52	bright
Southsea	1.9	.22	11	52	cloudy
Sandown	3.1	.11	11	52	bright
Shanklin	-	.17	11	52	cloudy
Bournemth	0.7	.15	11	52	bright
Poole	0.5	.28	11	52	cloudy
Swanage	0.8	.17	11	52	cloudy
Weymouth	0.7	.24	11	52	cloudy
Exmouth	0.2	.22	11	52	cloudy
Teignmouth	0.5	.02	11	52	cloudy
Torquay	0.6	-	12	54	bright
Falmouth	-	.02	11	52	dull
Penzance	-	.03	11	52	rain
Scilly Isles	-	.02	10	50	cloudy
Jersey	0.3	-	11	52	cloudy
Guernsey	1.5	.01	*	*	cloudy
Newquay	-	.08	11	52	rain
Ilfracombe	-	.01	11	52	dull
B'pool Airpt	2.1	.15	9	48	bright
Morecambe	-	.22	8	46	dull
Douglas	2.0	.13	8	46	cloudy
B'ham Airpt	0.2	.03	10	50	cloudy
Bristol (Ctrl)	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Carlisle	-	.24	8	46	rain
London	0.1	-	11	52	cloudy
Manchester	-	.45	9	48	cloudy
N'cstl-n-Tyne	-	.02	5	41	rain
Nottingham	0.6	.13	9	48	shower
Anglesey	-	.08	9	48	shower
Cardiff (Ctrl)	-	.02	10	50	cloudy
Colwyn Bay	-	.15	11	52	dull
Tenby	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Aberdeen	0.2	.91	4	39	rain
Edinburgh	-	.39	4	39	rain
Eskdalemuir	-	.18	3	37	rain
Glasgow	-	.21	5	41	rain
Kinloss	-	.28	4	39	rain
Lerwick	2.2	.02	5	41	hail
Prestwick	-	.21	5	41	drizzle
Stornoway	-	.01	6	43	bright
Tiree	-	.02	5	41	shower
Wick	-	.09	5	41	cloudy
Belfast	1.5	.01	7	45	cloudy

*Figures not available

LONDON

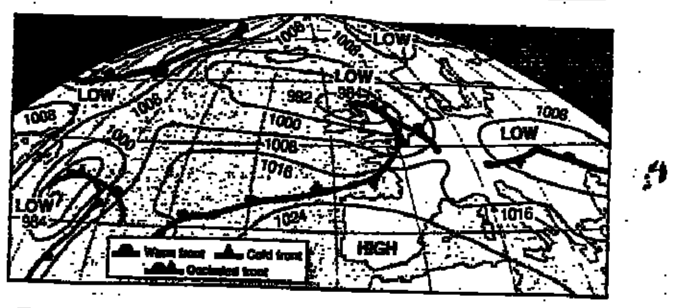
Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 11C (52F) ; min 6 pm to 6 am,8C (46F) Humidity: 6 pm, 76 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.1 hr Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1010.4 millibars, rising
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	6	43	Guernsey	c	11	52
B'mgham	f	9	48	Inverness	c	3	37
Blackpool	c	8	46	Jersey	f	11	52
Bristol	c	10	50	London	c	11	52
Cardiff	c	9	48	M'nchster	f	8	46
Edinburgh	r	4	39	Newcastle	r	5	41
Glasgow	r	4	39	R'nldsway	f	8	46

NOON TODAY



ABROAD

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; t, thunder.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	15	59	Cologne	r	9	48	Majorca	s	14	57	Rome	c	14	57
Akrotiri	c	17	63	C'phagn	sl	1	34	Malaga	s	16	61	Salzburg	c	7	45
Alex'dria	s	18	64	Corfu	f	14	57	Malta	c	15	59	S F'isco*	f	9	48
Algiers	s	16	61	Dublin	f	8	46	Melb'rne	c	19	66	Santiago*	s	31	88
Amst'dm	c	9	48	Dubrovnik	f	13	55	Mexico C*	s	18	64	S Paulo*	c	20	68
Athens	s	16	61	Faro	s	15	59	Miami*	f	20	68	Seoul	f	1	34
Bahrain	s	19	66	Florence	c	10	50	Milan	c	4	39	Sing'por	f	30	86
Barbads*	s	28	82	Frankfurt	f	10	50	Montreal*	c	0	32	St'kholm	f	-11	12
Barcelna	s	12	54	Funchal	f	19	66	Moscow	sn	-13	9	Strasb'rg	c	10	50
Beirut				Geneva	c	7	45	Munich	f	8	46	Sydney	f	28	82
Belgrade	c	8	46	Gibraltar	s	16	61	Nairobi	f	23	73	Tangier	f	15	59
Berlin	r	6	43	Helsinki	sn	-12	10	Naples	f	14	57	Tel aviv	c	15	59
Bermuda*	c	21	70	Hong K	s	22	72	N Delhi	s	17	63	Tenerife	s	20	68
Biarritz	c	14	57	Innsbrck	f	2	36	N York*	r	4	39	Tokyo	f	15	59
Borde'x	d	12	54	Istanbul	s	12	54	Nice	s	13	55	Toronto*	sn	1	34
Boul'ne				Jeddah	s	29	84	Oslo	c	-10	14	Tunis	c	14	57
Brussels	c	10	50	Jo'burg*	f	23	73	Paris	c	10	50	Valencia	s	15	59
Budapst	f	9	48	Karachi	s	22	72	Peking				Vanc'ver	s	5	41
B Aires*	f	31	88	L Palmas	f	20	68	Perth	s	30	86	Venice	c	6	43
Cairo	f	17	63	Lisbon	c	13	55	Prague	f	7	45	Vienna	f	11	52
Cape Tn	s	25	77	Locarno	c	5	41	Reykjvik	s	-4	25	Warsaw	sn	-2	28
C'blanca	f	15	59	L Angels*	s	19	66	Rhodes	f	17	63	Wash'ton*	c	4	39
Chicago*	c	3	37	Luxembg	c	7	45	Rio de J	c	23	73	Wel'nton	s	14	57
Ch'church	f	16	61	Madrid	s	4	39	Riyadh	c			Zurich	f	9	48

* denotes Tuesday's figures are latest available

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PART 2

THE TIMES

THURSDAY JANUARY 1 1987

BUSINESS AND FINANCE 19-23
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Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1313.9 (+5.3)
FT-SE 100
1679.0 (+5.9)
Bargains
22524 (25720)
USM (Datastream)
131.07 (+0.42)

THE POUND

US Dollar
1.4825 (+0.0135)
W German mark
2.8486 (−0.0115)
Trade-weighted
69.2 (+0.2)

Blackwood buys into US market

Blackwood Hodge is paying up to $14.5 million (£9.8 million) for Roland Machinery, of Illinois.

This marks Blackwood's entry into the American market, and the company said that it was a significant step in its expansion programme.

The acquisition price will be met by an initial cash payment of $7.25 million, with a further $4 million over the next three years and an additional sum of up to $3.25 million, depending on profits over the next three years.

Simon in $5m US takeover

Simon Engineering, on the receiving end of an unwanted bid from Valuedale, has bought Ladder Towers, of Pennsylvania, for at least $5.5 million (£3.7 million).

Simon is paying $3.4 million for property and assets, an initial cash payment of $2.1 million and a possible further payment in 1991, depending on profits between now and then.

BPCC chief

Mr John Holloran (above), who led the unsuccessful management buy-out of McCorquodale to ward off the bid from Norton Opax, has been appointed chief executive of The British Printing & Communication Corporation.

£672m bid

British and Commonwealth Shipping yesterday declared unconditional its £672.5 million bid for Exco International, the money brokers, after receiving acceptances for 65.5 per cent of the shares.

B&C also declared unconditional its £90 million bid for Steel Brothers, the overseas trading company where it now holds a 58 per cent stake.

Pearl progress

Pearl Assurance's new premium income grew by 60 per cent to £181.5 million in 1986. New single premiums more than doubled to £121.6 million and new annual premiums increased by 8 per cent to £59.9 million.

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War of words over share purchase

Guinness man to see DTI

By Lawrence Lever

The Government's investigation into Guinness, the brewing and leisure group, intensified yesterday with the news that the two Department of Trade and Industry inspectors had asked to interview a Guinness director next week.

The DTI *inspectors,* Mr David Donaldson QC and Mr Ian Watt, have *not* interviewed any Guinness directors *in the* course of their month-long inquiry. They will *conduct their interview* under new powers conferred by the *Financial Services Act to take* evidence on oath.

The *identity* of the director concerned has not been revealed, *although* the inspectors have not yet asked to see *Mr Ernest Saunders,* the Guinness chairman. But sources said the *investigation* was moving ahead *quickly* and it was only a matter of time before the inspectors asked to see Mr Saunders.

A Guinness spokesman would not comment yesterday, saying merely that Guinness would discuss the investigation with the inspectors and no one else.

However, the controversy surrounding the purchase of 2.1 million Guinness shares heightened as it became clear that Morgan Grenfell and Guinness have diametrically opposed versions of events.

The *shares were first purchased* by clients of Henry Ansbacher, *the merchant* bank, and transferred to its *nominee company* at *prices* above market levels, shortly *after the bid ended.*

Morgan Grenfell argues that the shares were *paid for by Guinness,* which *in turn* says it never authorized the purchase.

Henry Ansbacher understood that payment for the shares came directly from Guinness and wrote to Guinness acknowledging receipt of £7.6 million for the shares. The letter acknowledging receipt was drafted by Morgan Grenfell, signed by a clerk at Henry Ansbacher on behalf of the bank and sent to Guinness.

Sources close to the bank indicated that it supported Ansbacher's account of the receipt and acknowledgement of the money.

Guinness yesterday declined to comment on whether it had made the payment or received an acknowledgement. Sir David Napley, the solicitor brought in to advise the company said: "If they want to give their version of events they will tell it to the inspectors and we will give ours."

The Companies Act 1985 forbids a company from buying *its own shares* or paying someone to buy them except in certain circumstances. Guinness has repeatedly refused *to discuss the circumstances* in which the transaction took place.

Meanwhile, the DTI inspectors *have contacted* the Takeover Panel and are examining *its files on the takeover battle* for Distillers.

Donaldson (left) and Watt: new powers of evidence

Murdoch snubs talks at H&WT

Melbourne (Reuter) — Mr *Rupert Murdoch,* News Corporation's chief executive, said he would not attend the Herald and Weekly Times board meeting tomorrow, called after a counter offer was *made by a Bell Group* subsidiary on Christmas Eve.

Mr Murdoch also said he would not increase his Aus$12 (£5.44) a share bid for H&WT or the scrip alternatives in response to a counterbid by JN Taylor Holdings, a subsidiary of the Bell Group.

"I think my bid is already higher," he said, referring to the Taylor bid.

Mr John Dahlsen, chairman of H&WT, invited both Mr Murdoch and Mr Robert Holmes à Court, the Bell chairman, to the meeting.

Mr Holmes à Court, through Taylor, is offering Aus$13 a share, also with scrip alternatives. He has said will attend the meeting.

News Corporation's scrip alternatives are two News Corporation shares or convertible notes for every three H&WT shares.

Taylor's scrip alternatives are seven Aus$7.50 5 per cent five-year convertible notes or seven Taylor convertible preference shares for every four H&WT shares.

Market analysts who regard the News Corporation convertible notes as the superior offer said News Corporation may have to change its bid if Mr Holmes à Court alters his scrip alternatives from the relatively unknown Taylor to offers of scrip in the Bell Group.

News shares closed 40 cents higher at Aus$18.20 yesterday — an indication of market support for Mr Murdoch, analysts said.

Taylor shares closed steady at Aus$7.50, while H&WT rose 10 cents to close at Aus$12.80.

Prior hopes for 50% gas refund

By Cliff Feltham

Thousands of investors who sold their British Gas shares through Prior Harwin, the licensed dealer forced to stop trading by the Department of Trade and Industry, should receive at least half their money back, Mr Tony Prior, the company's chairman, said yesterday.

But Mr Prior criticized the DTI's action, which he claimed had been timed to cause "maximum disruption to thousands of small investors".

He said Prior Harwin had been poised to transform its *profitability during the* present year and had made gross *profits of £100,000 in* the past three months' trading in *British Gas and TSB shares.*

But he said the decision to send in a *special* manager to run the company before the court hearing for a winding-up petition on January 28 had rocked the business.

Clients had reneged on transactions and there were heavy costs to pay which were likely to drag the company under. "However, I would be optimistic that people would receive more than 50p in the pound," he said.

Mr Prior said he believed the DTI appointed an inspector in August to examine the *group's affairs because its* accounts were overdue. He said this arose from the involvement of two firms of *auditors who differed over the* presentation.

The directors, with Mr Christopher Morris of Touche Ross, *the accountancy firm,* were preparing a statement of *affairs, which was expected to* show that the group was solvent on December 22 when the special manager moved in.

Mr Prior said an affidavit by the inspector considered Prior Harwin Securities, the main asset in the accounts valued at £250,000, as worthless. But he claimed to have turned down an offer around the £80,000 asset value from a member of the Stock Exchange.

Don Gregory: not such a happy New Year for Beefeater

Family gin maker finding sorrows to drown in 1987

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

James Burrough, the family-controlled company which produces *Beefeater* gin near the Oval in south London, faces possible sales losses of about £20 million when the United States brings in swingeing taxation increases on imported gin.

Burrough, whose shares are on the Over The Counter market, had a turnover of *£57.4 million in the last full year with pretax profits of £8.3 million.*

The American move in its trade row with the EEC is likely to raise the cost of a bottle of Beefeater in New York from $11 (£7.48p)to about $18 (£12.24p).

This was the calculation made yesterday by Mr Don Gregory, the company's export director, as he prepared for an emergency management meeting tomorrow, led by Mr Norman Burrough, the chairman and third generation of the family which founded the company early in the last century to take advantage of London's distinctive underground water reserves which *Burrough still taps* by artesian well.

Mr Gregory said: "The United States is our biggest market although we have been expanding our exports elsewhere. The problem posed by the US move is extremely serious — but less serious than it would have been a few years ago."

Distillers' exports of the Tanqueray brand are affected, but the Gordons and Booths labels are produced under licence in America and will escape the restrictions, according to the company.

He added: Even if the Americans go ahead — and I hope commonsense will prevail and an acceptable solution found to the trade problem — I believe we would still have some business in the United States."

This is because Beefeater sells mainly to a maturer and monied section of the population.

Fewer business failures

Total business failures in England and Wales in 1986 fell by 1.3 per cent to 20,680 *but there was a significant* increase in bankruptcies, *particularly in the North-east.*

The figures, compiled by Dun & Bradstreet, the business information company, show markedly different trends for company liquidations compared with bankruptcies. Company liquidations declined by 4.7 per cent to 13,689 while bankruptcies among individuals, *firms and partnerships* rose by 6.2 per cent to 6991.

The North-east was particularly badly hit with a 18.7 per *cent rise in bankruptcies to* 1,075.

Total business failures peaked in 1984.

London and the South-east suffered just over half the liquidations and 28 per cent of the bankruptcies. Scotland recorded 584 company liquidations, a fall of 8.3 per cent.

Record imports open US trade gap to $19bn

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The United States trade deficit jumped to $19.22 billion (£13 billion) in November from $12.06 billion in October, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

The continued rise in the trade deficit, projected by *many economists to hit a* record total of about $170 *billion this year, is causing the* Reagan Administration economic and political problems.

Economists and traders had forecast an increase in the deficit in November, but it was much greater than expected.

The department also revised upwards October's trade deficit to $14.71 billion.

The surge in November's deficit reflected a broad rise in manufactured imports, including record car imports, as well as a record deficit with Japan.

Imports increased 20.5 per cent in November to a record $37.82 billion, *while* exports fell 3.8 per cent to $18.59 billion.

The unrevised deficit for the *first 11 months* was $159.12 billion, compared with $133.33 *billion in the same* period the previous year. The deficit in November 1985 was $13.65 billion.

November's imports may have been boosted by importers' attempts to avoid a new US user fee which took effect on imports on December 1, a Commerce Department *official said.*

The rise in the November deficit came after three straight months of decline in the trade imbalance before revisions.

The deficit with Japan hit a record $6.74 billion in November and totalled $54.75 billion for the first 11 months of 1986. In 1985, the deficit with Japan was $49.7 billion.

The total value of petroleum imports rose 10.7 per cent in November to $3.01 billion and the *price per barrel* increased to $13.51 from $13.32. Volume *rose* 9.2 *per* cent to 223 million barrels. The trade deficit *reflects* the greater value of goods entering the United States *over the* value of American exports.

The US trade deficit with Western Europe was $3.8 *billion.* $2.8 *billion* with Canada, $1.8 billion with Taiwan, *and $800 million with South* Korea.

Sterling up as dollar falls away

By Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

The pound had a good day in foreign exchange markets in contrast to the dollar which dropped sharply after the bad American trade figures for November.

The US currency fell about 2 pfennigs on the news to around 1.9225 marks.

Sterling confirmed the independent trend established in recent trading by showing *substantial* gains against the dollar, though trading was *thin.*

The pound closed up 1.5 *cents compared with the* previous close at $1.4837. The *cross rate against the mark* dropped a pfennig to 2.8524 *but the sterling index* was 0.2 stronger at 69.2 after opening at 69.4.

Helping the pound was a *further rise in spot oil prices* which finished more than $18 a barrel for the first time in nearly a year.

Gilt-edged prices were up to 5/8 firmer. In the money markets 3-month interbank rates fell slightly again to 11 3/16 per cent.

● Final figures for the money supply in November confirm a rise after seasonal adjustment of 1 per cent in the narrow measure of money, M0, and 1.2 per cent in the broad measure, sterling M3.

FMS curbs eased by Fimbra

Fimbra, the self-regulating body for licensed share dealers, has amended the restrictions imposed on Financial Management Services, one of its members, after an appeal by the company.

Fimbra also stressed that it had not suspended FMS from its membership, and the company was continuing to carry on its normal business. "The company has co-operated fully with our investigations although the restrictions still apply," said Fimbra.

The main outcome of the appeal hearing is that previously Fimbra imposed curbs on FMS carrying on business except through individuals registered with the body.

This has now been modified to allow dealings to be carried out by *individuals whose* applications for registration were received by Fimbra before the appeal hearing and who held valid representative licences from the Department of Trade.

Fimbra also stipulated that all cheques issued by FMS were to be co-signed by a partner in the firm's auditors. This has also been relaxed after representations by the auditors. Fimbra also requested evidence from FMS about its financial position. This information has now been received.

Sell-off for airline, airports and aeroengines

The great air industry sale

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

BRITISH AIRWAYS
B·A·A
ROLLS ROYCE

Privatization will be the key word for industry in the first half of 1987, and all eyes will be focused on what amounts to the sale of almost the entire state-owned air transport industry.

Only Short Brothers of Belfast will remain in the public sector after British Airways, BAA (formerly the British Airposts Authority) and Rolls-Royce come to the market before autumn.

The total proceeds could approach £3 billion, a crucial *figure in the pre-election taxation-cutting policy* of Mrs Thatcher's government.

All three companies and *their advisers* have been working hard to woo potential *investors and to minimize* the undoubted problems that lie *ahead.*

For the government — assuming that there is no election before the summer — the sales will give added impetus to the privatization programme, one of the cornerstones of the Conservative policy for a revitalized Britain.

Top *of the pile,* and the flagship for privatization this year, is British Airways, which aims to become the institutions' favourite as well as the world's favourite by the beginning of February.

***But it has proved to have* been one of the most difficult of the public asset sales. BA has gone through a turbulent few years, and the *sale* of the airline has been dogged by embarrassing delays.**

Earlier in this decade, with airline traffic plummeting, BA's finances suffered badly and there were fears among ministers that the balance sheet could never be made *healthy enough to attract private capital.*

***Further problems arose over* the collapse of Laker Airways and the *subsequent* lawsuits, which were only settled out of court after prolonged negotiations. A frustrated Lord King, BA's sometimes irascible chairman but fervent supporter of the privatization programme, attempted to put together a management-led buyout, but had his knuckles firmly wrapped by Mrs Thatcher.**

This year the sale was again postponed by *ministers in* advance of delicate negotiations with the United *States* on renewal of the so-called Bermuda II agreement, covering transatlantic air services.

But with these issues resolved, and the government basking in the warmth of five years of *steady BA profitability,* the time is believed to be *right,* and the sale *should fetch* about £1 billion.

A similar sum is *expected* from the sale of Rolls-Royce, which has been transformed in recent years and which claims to have convinced the City that it has recovered from the traumas of the early 1970s when the crippling development costs of the RB-211 engine brought it to its knees and forced a government rescue.

The recovery in the airline *industry now bodes well for* R-R, which should be making *real headway over the next few* years.

***Its biggest losses and £273* million of bank lending is being eradicated and, while there may be criticism of the government "giving away for nothing" one of the country's most prestigious engineering names, the company, under the chairmanship of Sir Francis Tombs, is confident that its wide spread of products and *markets will ensure* a successful flotation.**

The final piece in the aerospace jigsaw is the highly profitable BAA, whose seven airports now trade as separate subsidiaries. With Heathrow *alone turning in a* profit last year of £66 million, there seems little *doubt* that the company's privatization will prove popular.

BAA will be the first airport authority in the world to "go private," and the flotation is certain to be studied closely

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	
Dow Jones	1901.29 (−7.32)*
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	Closed
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	*2568.30 (+8.94)*
Amsterdam: Gen	278.4 (same)
Sydney: *AO*	1472.8 (+2.6)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	Closed
Brussels:	
General	4095.61 (same)
Paris: CAC	*397.8 (−0.6)*
Zurich: SKA Gen	558.10 (same)
London: *FT. A*	n/a
FT. Gilts	83.62 (+0.1)
Closing prices	**Page 23**

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 11%
3-month Interbank 11¼-11⅛%
3-month eligible bills: 10 11/16-21/32%
buying rate
US: Prime Rate 7½%
Federal Funds 22%*
3-month Treasury *Bills 5.58-5.56%**
30-year bonds 100 9/32-100 11/32*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.4825	$: £1.4822*
£: DM2.8486	$: DM1.9225*
£: SwFr2.3890	$: *SwFr1.6137**
£: FFr9.4509	$: FFr6.3710*
£: *Yen234.46*	$: Yen158.25*
£: Index:69.2	$: Index:107.9
ECU £n/a	SDR £0.831759

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
H. Boot	297p (+17p)
Wettern Bros.	569p (+7p)
BICC	289p (+8p)
Clyde Blowers	230p (+15p)
Prestwick Hldgs.	60p (+9p)
Edbro	180p (+12p)
Bassett	198p (+10p)
Early's of Witney	173p (+10p)
Wardle Storeys	383p (+7p)
B.P.	729p (+9p)
Burmah	387p (+13p)
Sale Tilney	206p (+8p)
Trafalgar House	278p (+7p)
Lloyds	445p (+8p)
Midland	605p (+11p)
Sturge Hldgs.	431p (+10p)
Cons. Gold	*670p (+8p)*
FALLS:	
Ipeco	106p (−7p)
Morgan Grenfell	*360p (−10p)*
British & Comm.	294p (−7p)

Prices are as at 4pm

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $390.90 pm-$n/a
close $390.75-391.25 (£264.75-265.25)
New York:
Comex $399.60-400.10*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Feb) pm *$18.10bbl($17.80)*
* Denotes latest trading price

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Name of usual Professional adviser (if any) ______

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the Gilt-Edged BOND

New freedom for building societies

A new era starts for Britain's building societies today with legislation which allows them to offer a wider range of services

October 27, 1986, may have been Big Bang day in the City but, in the building society world it is today, January 1, 1987, that will be remembered as Big Bang day.

The main parts of the Building Societies Act 1986 come into force today and their principal effect is to enable societies to offer a far wider set of retail financial services.

Up to now, building societies have been largely confined to two principal functions – accepting deposits from members of the public, and providing loans to people who wish to buy their own homes. As a result of the new Act, which replaces what is in effect 100-year-old legislation, societies' powers are widened significantly.

Under the new Act, the main purpose of building societies remains that of making loans to individuals who wish to purchase houses, but it includes powers for societies to make unsecured loans and to provide a range of financial services as well as services relating to land.

So, for example, the largest 50 or so societies will be able to offer unsecured loans (usually up to a maximum of £5,000 per individual) and offer a credit card. The power to make unsecured loans is also important in that it will enable building societies to help first-time buyers with the cost of furnishings.

According to Mr Adrian Coles of the Building Societies Association, societies have in the past had to advise customers to go to a bank for an unsecured loan and this has sometimes meant the society losing the mortgage business itself in cases where the borrower has realized he could obtain a complete package elsewhere.

Smaller societies with assets below about £120 million will not have the power to lend unsecured. Instead, they, and any larger societies not willing to take the risks involved in unsecured lending, will be able to arrange for the provision of credit by another lender. In effect, this confirms what a number of societies are already doing.

Melville-Ross: Nationwide plans estate agency network

Building societies now also have the power to make or receive payments as agents for, for example, electricity, gas, water and rates bills.

There is also the potential for getting into the estate agency business. Mr Tim Melville-Ross, chief executive of the Nationwide, is planning a national network of estate agents with more than 360 offices over the next few months.

One of the most far-reaching of the new services is the one relating to the acquisition or disposal of investments. At the simplest level this might mean societies selling National Savings Certificates.

There is also the prospect of them selling stocks and shares. The Act also gives societies the power to offer personal equity plans.

Then there is the fast-growing area of personal pensions. Building societies will be able to act as marketing and collecting agencies for insurance companies and will be able to establish funds into which individual pension contributions can be invested. This service will take on particular significance from April next year when employed people will have the statutory right to opt for a personal pension instead of membership of an occupational scheme.

Societies' insurance advisory powers can now be extended beyond the traditional confines of house building and contents cover.

Societies which wish to offer an independent life insurance or investment advisory service will have to conform to the requirements of a separate piece of legislation – the Financial Services Act. The Bradford & Bingley has already signalled its intentions here by joining Fimbra, the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Association.

Though building societies may be subject to wider legislation in their quest for a diversified role, societies in their traditional role will be primarily subject to their own new Act which includes provision for a Building Societies Commission whose tasks will include the protection of savers' deposits and the establishment of an "ombudsman" scheme on customer complaints.

Is it all such a good thing? Not everyone in the building society world thinks so. Mr Denis Macnaught, chief executive of the Yorkshire Building Society, is on record questioning whether societies really want "a soggy, amorphous mass" of financial institutions, all offering similar services.

Mr Macnaught says he is particularly concerned about societies taking risks in areas where they have limited expertise, and thus jeopardizing their "special relationship" with the public.

But even critics of the new legislation concede that the framework is now there to take societies into the 21st century. Societies would be foolish to rush into everything simply because they have the legal power to do so. If they move slowly out of well-signposted territory, they can combine diversification with the maintenance of their "special relationship".

Peter Gartland

Men who hold the aces

The year of the megabid produced many City celebrities – company savers, hunters and defenders. More are poised in the wings

It was inevitable in the year of Big Bang, £35 billion worth of bids and high passions about insider dealing that the City should produce more than its fair share of celebrities. And a name that consistently gathered headlines was that of Sir Ralph Halpern, chairman and chief executive of the Burton Group.

Last year will be remembered as his year of personal achievement. Sir Ralph, a £5,000-a-year salesman only 16 years ago, rescued Burton from the brink of oblivion.

It started with Sir Ralph still trying to digest Debenhams, the departmental stores group which Burton had acquired in an acrimonious £570 million takeover only a few months before. The Debenhams acquisition helped to boost Burton's pretax profits from £80 million to £147.8 million.

Plans were made to spend £200 million over the next three years remodelling Debenhams' 66 stores. His efforts in the high street and on behalf of the unemployed – a new job creation scheme – did not go unnoticed. In June, the flamboyant fitness fanatic received a knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

There were other rewards, too. Burton's 1986 annual report revealed that Sir Ralph's salary had doubled to more than £1 million – about £20,000 a week – making him Britain's highest paid executive.

It is unlikely that Sir Ralph will rest on his laurels. Woolworth has been already singled out as his most likely target.

Another businessman jostling into the headlines last year was Mr Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, the fast-growing entertainments group. He had established his name already as a crusader for cheaper air fares with Virgin Atlantic Airways and the start of 1986 had him battling to introduce flights between London and Paris for less than £35.

November saw him closeted with his financial advisers, putting the finishing touches to Virgin's £240 million public flotation. Although his flair captured investors' imagination and despite the issue being three times oversubscribed, the shares made a disappointing start. Struck at 140p, they have still to achieve a premium.

But Mr Branson is undeterred and is involved already in other ventures. Virgin has won the franchise from the IBA to launch Britain's first satellite television company.

One of the most popular personalities of the year was Mr Tony Berry, the chairman and driving force behind Blue Arrow, the fast-growing services group and now Britain's biggest employment agency.

Since Blue Arrow joined the Unlisted Securities Market in July 1984, at 75p, the athletic Mr Berry has built up a following among the financial Press that is the envy of many of the bigger blue chip companies. In those days, Blue Arrow was capitalized at a mere £3.1 million. But when the group graduated to a full listing last summer, its stock market value had grown to £90 million after the acquisition of Brooke Street Bureau, Hoggett Bowers, the USM-quoted headhunter, and a string of smaller, privately owned companies.

In October, Mr Berry turned his attention to the lucrative US temporary employment agency sector and, armed with an extra £30 million after a successful rights issue, he went hunting.

He paid $8 million for Positions, a Boston company, and Temporaries, from Washington, with a down payment of $10.7 million. Earlier this week, he completed his hat-trick with the purchase of Career Employment Services for £10.3 million. Blue Arrow's share price ended 1986 trading at about 390p. The company is now worth almost £150 million.

Two of the busiest men on the takeover scene during the year were Mr Harry Solomon and Mr David Thompson, joint chairmen and chief executives of Hillsdown Holdings, the food-to-furniture and timber group.

In the two years since it came to market it has bought a total of 45 companies – 31 of them during last year which is the equivalent to one new acquisition every two or three weeks.

But it was not all smooth running for them. In April they launched a £486 million bid for S&W Berisford, the sugar refining and commodity trading group, after building up a 14.7 per cent stake in the company. But Hillsdown's offer was matched by Tate & Lyle while Ferruzzi, the Italian food group, also announced its intention to bid. In the end, the whole matter was referred to the Monopolies Commission and Hillsdwon decided to call it a day.

Sugar of Amstrad: machines compatible with markets

Undismayed and even in the dying days of the year, they were announcing new deals, including the purchase of a near-30 per cent stake in the open-cast coal miner Anglo United Developments and the £8 million acquisition of another private company.

As for the personalities destined for the news this year, a number appear clearly in the crystal ball.

Mr Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive of Woolworth Holdings, earned a lot of praise for his successful defence of the £1.9 billion unwanted bid from Dixons back in the summer although he and the rest of the City are only too aware of how vulnerable Woolworth remains to another bid.

Under Takeover Panel rules, Mr Stanley Kalms at Dixons must now wait a year before deciding whether to launch another offensive, but this does not prevent other predators from moving. Burton Group has been mentioned as a possible suitor and any approach from Burton would leave the way clear for Dixons to renew its efforts.

But the wily Mr Mulcahy may decide to take the initiative and launch his own acquisition programme. The company has already built up a dossier of likely targets which could include the likes of Sears Holdings and Asda-MFI.

Mr Robert Montague, chairman of Tiphook, the container and trailer rental group, should feature also. Tiphook came to market already under a cloud in August 1985, at the second attempt.

The shares were offered at 110p and received a lukewarm reception by the institutions, leaving Mr Montague the task of convincing them that the company had the ability to deliver. He did it and Tiphook shares have been as high as 370p and look set to do even better this year.

Tiphook was valued at just £6 million when it came to market and is now worth about £60 million. The ambitious Mr Montague is convinced that the company will be capitalized at nearer £500 million within the next three years.

This year could see him enter the takeover arena. Only recently it was revealed he holds a near-5 per cent stake in Mitchell Cotts, the engineer and transport group. A full bid could follow.

Also on the lookout for further growth this year is Mr Alan Sugar's Amstrad Consumer Electronics. The group's stock market value during 1986 grew from £215 million to almost £700 million, due largely to the success of Mr Sugar's computer-word processor, the PCW 8256. Sales of the machine helped Amstrad to more than double pretax profits last year and £75.28 million on sales 123 per cent higher at £204 million.

Cockney-born Mr Sugar, who started his business career selling car aerials from the back of a van, has similar high hopes for his latest machine, the IBM-compatible PC 1512.

Despite reports that the PC 1512 has had teething troubles, analysts are convinced it is a winner and likely to make a big dent in the £23 billion personal computer market.

When Mr John Gunn resigned as chairman of Exco International, the money broker and financial services group, in September 1985 after differences between him and the rest of the Exco board, most City observers could have been forgiven for assuming that his career was on the wane. Nothing could have been further from the truth.

Shortly afterwards he joined the board of British & Commonwealth Shipping but it was not until October that he was appointed chief executive and his fight back really began.

His first task was to launch a £672 million bid for his old company Exco, where there had been a certain amount of discontent about the way the company was heading.

Within three days he had received acceptances from Exco's two biggest shareholders – the Belzberg family and the Malaysian businessman Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat – and after picking up more shares in the market was able to announce acceptances of more than 50 per cent.

The newly merged company is worth £1.2 billion but it is unlikely Mr Gunn will mark time. Most marketmen are convinced that, armed with a healthy balance sheet, he might decide to move against one of the big banks.

Mr Peter Goldie, chief executive of Abaco Investments, the professional and financial services group, is just 40 but it seems as though he has been around the City a lot longer. His rise to fame started in 1983 when he left Guinness Peat, the merchant bank, to launch his own business and chose as his vehicle Greencoat Properties, as Abaco was then known.

In three years Abaco's market capitalization has grown from £5 million to £127 million. It has also attracted the attention of Mr Gunn's British & Commonwealth with a 23 per cent stake and, more recently, Standard Chartered Bank with 12.7 per cent of the shares. We are likely to see a lot more of Mr Goldie and Abaco in 1987.

Halpern of Burton: back from brink of oblivion

Gunn of B & C: could move against one of big banks

Mulcahy of Woolworth: he has dossier of likely targets

Michael Clark
Stock Market Correspondent

WALL STREET

Prices edge upwards

New York (Agencies) – Many stocks showed small gains in early trading, seeking to emulate the traditional advance in the final trading session of the year.

The market was shrugging off the record $19.2 billion November trade deficit and the subsequent deterioration in the dollar.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose by 4.92 points to 1,913.53 and the transportation index by 0.48 to 810.68.

Niagara Mohawk, which fell 2¼ on Tuesday after analysts said that its dividend might be in doubt because of delays and costs associated with a valve leak at a nuclear plant, recovered ½ to 16½.

	Dec 30	Dec 29		Dec 30	Dec 29		Dec 30	Dec 29
AMR	53½	54	Firestone	27⅝	28⅛	Pfizer	61⅞	61½
ASA	35½	35¾	Fst Chicago	29⅜	29½	Phelps Dge	20⅞	21
Allied Signal	40	40¼	Fst Int Bncp	52½	52⅝	Philip Mrs	72½	73⅝
Allied Strs	68¾	68½	Fst Penn C	8⅛	8⅛	Phillips Pet	11⅞	11⅝
Allis Chlmrs	2⅞	2⅜	Ford	57⅝	57⅝	Polaroid	66⅝	67¼
Alcoa	33⅞	33¼	FT Wachva	35⅝	36¼	PPG Ind	72⅝	73¼
Amax Inc	12	12	GAF Corp	37¼	38¼	Prctr Gmbl	77½	78⅝
Am'rda Hs	23¾	24½	GTE Corp	58⅝	59⅝	Pb S E & G	40⅝	40⅞
Am Brands	42	42⅝	Gen Corp	72	72¾	Raytheon	67⅝	67¾
Am Can	84¼	84⅝	Gen Dy'mcs	68	69	Rynlds Met	40	40⅝
Am Cynm'd	79	79⅝	Gen Electric	87½	86⅝	Rockwell Int	45⅝	46⅝
Am El Pwr	27⅝	27½	Gen Inst	18¾	18⅝	Royal Dutch	95	95½
Am Express	57½	58⅛	Gen Mills	42¾	42⅞	Sara Lee	34	34
Am Home	76⅝	77¼	Gen Motors	66	66¾	SFE Sopac	29½	29¼
Am Motors	3	3	Gn Pb Ut ny	22⅝	22⅝	Schl'berger	31⅝	31⅝
Am St'nrd	42⅝	42⅝	Genesco	3⅛	3¼	Scott Paper	62⅝	62⅞
Am Teleph	25⅛	25¼	Georgia Pac	37⅝	38¼	Seagram	61¼	61⅝
Amoco	66⅛	66⅛	Gillete	48½	48¾	Sears Rbck	40⅞	40½
Armco Steel	5⅛	5⅛	Goodrich	44	44½	Shell Trans	57⅝	57⅞
Asarco	14¼	14⅛	Goodyear	41⅝	41⅝	Singer	38⅝	38⅞
Ashland Oil	56⅝	56½	Gould Inc	17⅛	17⅝	Smithkln Bk	94⅝	93¾
At Richfield	61	61⅞	Grace	49⅝	49¾	Sony	20⅞	21
Avon Prods	27	27⅛	Gt Atl & Tac	22⅛	23⅝	Sth Cal Ed	34	34
Bkrs Tst NY	45⅞	46⅛	Gr'hnd	31½	31¼	S'Wstn Bell	112⅝	113½
Bankamer	14⅝	14¼	Gruman Cor	25⅛	25½	Std Oil	49½	49⅝
Bk of Bston	41⅞	41⅝	Gulf & West	63⅛	63⅝	Sterling Drg	46½	46⅞
Bank of NY	39	39	Heinz H.J.	40¾	41⅝	Stevens JP	38	39
Beth Steel	6⅛	6	Hercules	51¾	52⅛	Sun Comp	55⅝	55¾
Boeing	52	53	H'lett-Pkrd	42⅛	42⅛	Teledyne	297⅞	302
Bse Cascde	60⅛	60⅞	Honeywell	59½	58⅝	Tenneco	38	38⅛
Brden	46⅛	47⅝	IC Inds	23	23¼	Texaco	36	36
Bg Warner	38½	39¼	Ingersoll	56¼	57¼	Texas E Cor	27½	27⅝
Brstl Myers	83⅛	83¾	Inland Steel	18⅝	18¼	Texas Inst	118⅝	116¼
BP	43	42⅝	IBM	120⅞	120⅛	Texas Utils	31⅞	32¼
Burl'ton Ind	41⅞	41¾	INCO	11⅝	11⅜	Textron	63¾	63½
Burl'ton Ntn	53⅛	54⅛	Int Paper	76¼	76⅝	Travlrs Cor	44⅝	44⅛
Brunswck	34⅛	34⅛	Int Tel Tel	54	53	TRW Inc	85	85½
Cmpbell Sp	57⅝	59⅝	Irving Bank	46⅛	47⅛	UAL Inc	53¾	53½
Can Pacific	12⅝	12⅛	Jhnsn & Jhn	66⅝	66⅛	Unilever NV	235⅝	235¾
Caterpillar	39⅝	40⅛	Kaiser Alum	13⅛	13⅝	Unisys	80⅝	81⅝
Celanese	240	240	Kerr McGee	28⅝	28⅛	Un Carbide	22⅝	22⅝
Central SW	34⅝	35	Kmb'ly Clrk	81¼	80⅛	Un Pac Cor	62¾	62¼
Champion	31⅛	31⅛	K Mart	43⅛	44	Utd Brands	33¾	35
Chase Man	36⅛	36⅞	Kroger	29½	29½	USG Corp	38	38½
Chm Bk NY	43⅛	43¼	L.T.V. Corp	1⅛	1½	Utd Technol	46½	46⅝
Chevron	45⅝	45⅛	Litton	75	75⅝	USX Corp	21⅝	21⅝
Chrysler	37⅝	38½	Lockheed	50⅞	50⅛	Unocal	26⅛	27½
Citicorp	53⅝	53⅛	Lucky Strs	26	26½	Jim Walter	48⅞	50
Clark Equip	19⅞	20	Man H'nver	45⅛	45⅝	Wrner Lmbt	58½	58⅝
Coca Cola	38⅛	38⅛	Manville Cp	1⅛	1⅞	Wells Fargo	102½	102½
Colgate	41	41⅝	Mapco	60	60⅜	W'sghse El	58	57⅞
CBS	127¼	128	Marine Mid	45½	45⅛	Weyerh'ser	38½	39⅛
C'mbia Gas	45⅛	45⅝	Mrt Marietta	38⅛	39¼	Whirlpool	68⅛	68⅝
Cmb'tn Eng	30⅞	32⅛	Masco	29	28⅝	Woolworth	38¼	38
Comwlth Ed	33⅛	34	McDonalds	62⅛	62¼	Xerox Corp	60⅝	61½
Cons Eds	47	47	McDonnell	71½	72⅛	Zenith	21⅝	21½
Cn Nat Gas	32⅞	32⅛	Mead	55	55⅝			
Cons Power	15⅝	15⅝	Morck	126½	124¼			
Cntl Data	26⅛	26⅛	Mnnsta Mng	116⅛	117⅝			
Corning Gl	55⅛	55⅛	Mobil Oil	40⅞	40⅛			
CPC Intl	79	79¼	Monsanto	76⅛	76⅛			
Crane	34	33⅞	Morgan J.P.	83⅞	84½			
Curtiss Wrt	53	53⅛	Motorola	35¼	36⅝			
Data Genl	29⅛	29⅝	NCR Corp	45	45⅝			
Deere	23⅛	23⅝	NL Indstrs	5⅛	5⅝			
Delta Air	48⅛	48½	Nat Distlrs	42⅝	44½			
Detroit Ed	16⅛	16⅝	Nat Med Ent	22⅛	23⅝			
Digital Eq	105¼	106¼	Nat Smcndt	10⅛	10⅝			
Disney	42⅞	43⅛	Norfolk Sth	84½	85⅛			
Dow Chem	59⅝	60	NW Bancrp	37	37½			
Dresser Ind	19⅞	19⅝	Occdnt Pet	27⅞	28⅝			
Duke Power	45⅝	46	Ogden	42⅞	44⅛			
Du Pont	85⅛	86⅛	Olin Corp	41	41¼			
Estm Kodak	68⅛	67⅛	Owens-Ill	52⅛	52			
Eaton Corp	73½	74⅞	Pac Gas El	24⅛	24¾			
Emerson El	85⅛	85½	Pan Am	4⅛	4½			
Emery Air	11⅛	11½	Penney J.C.	72⅛	72⅝			
Exxon Corp	71⅝	72⅝	Pennzoil	66⅛	66⅝			
Fed Dpt Sts	82⅝	83⅛	Pepsico	26	26⅞			

CANADIAN PRICES

Agnco Eag	25⅝	25⅞
Alcn Alum	38½	38⅞
Algoma Stl	10⅝	11
Can Pacific	17⅞	17½
Cominco	13⅜	13
Con Bathrst	30¾	30½
Hkr/Sid Can	26⅝	26¼
Hdsn B Min	22⅝	22⅝
Imasco	32⅝	32
Imperial Oil	51⅝	51⅝
In Pipe	40	39⅞
Ryl Trustco	30	30
Seagram	84⅛	84⅛
Steel Co	19⅛	19
Thmsn N 'A'	30¾	30¾
Varity Corp	2.70	2.70
WCT	13	12⅞
Weston	35	34⅞

MONEY MARKET AND GOLD

The Bank of England, after raising its estimate of the shortage from £850 million to £900 million yesterday, bought a further £198 million of bank bills, taking £25 million in band one at 10⅞ per cent, £144 million in band two at 10 13/16 per cent, £1 million in band three at 10¾ per cent and £28 million in band four at 10 11/16 per cent.

Base Rates %
Clearing Banks 11
Finance House 11½

Discount Market Loans %
Overnight High: 11 Low 10
Week fixed: 10⅝

Treasury Bills (Discount %)

Buying		Selling	
2 mnth	10⅝	2 mnth	10 11/16
3 mnth	10 11/16	3 mnth	10⅝

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)

1 mnth	10 13/16-10¾	2 mnth	10⅞-10 23/32
3 mnth	10 11/16-10 21/32	6 mnth	10⅝-10 9/16

Trade Bills (Discount %)

1 mnth	11 7/16	2 mnth	11⅜
3 mnth	11 5/16	6 mnth	11¼

Interbank (%)
Overnight: open 11⅛ close 2

1 week	11¼-11⅛	6 mnth	11⅛-11⅛
1 mnth	11¼-11⅛	9 mnth	11 3/16-11 1/16
3 mnth	11¼-11⅛	12 mth	11⅛-11

Local Authority Deposits (%)

2 days	10⅝	7 days	10⅝
1 mnth	10⅞	3 mnth	11
6 mnth	11	12 mth	11

Local Authority Bonds (%)

1 mnth	11½-11¼	2 mnth	11½-11¼
3 mnth	11½-11¼	6 mnth	11 7/16-11¼
9 mnth	11 5/16-11⅜	12 mth	11½-11¼

Sterling CDs (%)

1 mnth	11 3/16-11 1/16	3 mnth	11 3/16-11 1/16
6 mnth	11-10⅞	12 mth	10⅞-10⅝

Dollar CDs (%)

1 mnth	6.70-6.65	3 mnth	6.20-6.15
6 mnth	6.10-6.05	12 mth	6.20-6.15

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Dollar		call	7-6
7 days	8½-13½	1 mnth	6 9/16-6 7/16
3 mnth	6 9/16-6 7/16	6 mnth	6⅝-6⅜
Deutschmark		call	5½-4½
7 days	5⅝-5⅜	1 mnth	4 15/16-4 13/16
3 mnth	4 15/16-4 13/16	6 mnth	4 15/16-4 13/16
French Franc		call	8⅞-7⅞
7 days	10-9½	1 mnth	11-10½
3 mnth	11⅛-10⅝	6 mnth	10⅞-10⅜
Swiss Franc		call	2½-1½
7 days	3½-3	1 mnth	3 15/16-3 13/16
3 mnth	3 15/16-3 13/16	6 mnth	3 15/16-3 13/16
Yen		call	5-4
7 days	4 15/16-4 13/16	1 mnth	4⅝-4½
3 mnth	4⅝-4½	6 mnth	4 7/16-4 5/16

BULLION

Gold:$390.75-391.25
Krugerrand (per coin, ex vat):
$ 388.50-391.50 (£263.25-265.50)
Sovereigns (new, ex vat):
$ 92.00-93.00 (£62.25-63.00)
Platinum
$ 468.75 am (£317.35 am)
Silver
$ 5.27-5.29 (£3.57-3.59)

ECGD

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period November 29, 1986 to December 31, 1986 inclusive: 11.392 per cent.

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	11.00%
Adam & Company	11.00%
BCCI	11.00%
Citibank Savings†	12.45%
Consolidated Crds	11.00%
Co-operative Bank	11.00%
C. Hoare & Co	11.00%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	11.00%
Lloyds Bank	11.00%
Nat Westminster	11.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland	11.00%
TSB	11.00%
Citibank NA	11.00%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Ashtead (122p)	150
British Gas (50p)	64¾ –¼
Cap & Regional (65p)	66
Daniels S (130p)	155
Fletcher King (175p)	175 –3
Gaynor (94p)	107
Geest (125p)	171
Glentree (16p)	51 –2
Gordon Russell (190p)	207
Guthrie Corp (150p)	169 –1
Halls Homes & Gdns (95p)	105
Harmony Leisure (23p)	26
Hornby (100p)	105 +2
Hoskyns Gp (128p)	147
Johnson Fry	160 +2
Lloyds Chemist (105p)	133 +2
Logitek (65p)	67
Lon& Metropolitan (145p)	169
MIL (144p)	146
Mezzanine (150p)	76
Mayborn (102p)	106 –2
Nobo (152p)	153
Nothumbrian Fine (60p)	90
Plum Hldgs (90p)	113
Spandex (170p)	248 +2
Sumit (135p)	138
TSB Chan Isles (70p)	110 –1
TSB Group (100p)	76¾ +1¼
Virgin (140p)	133½ +½
Ward Group (97p)	102
Wilding Office (135p)	148 +3

RIGHTS ISSUES

Avon Rubber N/P	30 –1
Birm Mint N/P	22 +2
Freshbake N/P	17
Leisure Inv N/P	4
Marling N/P	11
Munton N/P	7 +2
New Court N/P	1¼
Property Tst N/P	1 +¼
Parkdale N/P	6 +1
Walker (Alfred) N/P	

(Issue price in brackets)

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Three Month Sterling	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Mar 87	89.01	89.15	89.01	89.14	1670
Jun 87	89.43	89.52	89.42	89.48	313
Sep 87	89.56	89.60	89.54	89.60	148
Dec 87	89.44	89.50	89.44	89.50	38
Mar 88	NT	—	—	89.29	0
Jun 88	NT	—	—	89.08	0
Previous day's total open interest 14502					
Three Month Eurodollar	Previous day's total open interest 22275				
Mar 87	93.88	93.94	93.86	93.91	1366
Jun 87	93.88	93.92	93.87	93.90	130
Sep 87	93.81	93.82	93.80	93.81	83
Dec 87	93.65	93.67	93.63	93.64	52
US Treasury Bond	Previous day's total open interest 3259				
Mar 87	98-14	98-23	98-09	98-15	1257
Jun 87	NT	—	—	97-18	0
Sep 87	NT	—	—	—	0
Short Gilt	Previous day's total open interest 109				
Mar 86	NT	—	—	97-31	0
Jun 87	NT	—	—	—	0
Sep 87	NT	—	—	—	0
Long Gilt	Previous day's total open interest 16745				
Mar 87	112-24	113-00	112-11	112-27	6751
Jun 87	113-08	113-08	113-08	113-00	10
Sep 87	NT	—	—	—	0
Dec 87	NT	—	—	—	0
FT-SE 100	Previous day's total open interest 3533				
Dec 86	167.30	167.60	167.30	167.60	45
Mar 87	170.60	171.40	170.50	170.70	620

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
Nov 17	Nov 28	Feb 19	Mar 2
Dec 1	Dec 12	Mar 5	Mar 16
Dec 15	Jan 2	Mar 19	Mar 30

Call options were taken out on: 31/12/86 Bristol Channel, Wm. Morris, Amstrad, Sears, Conroy Pets., Border TV, Cifer, Ferranti, Markheath, Morgan Grenfell, GEC, Sale Tilney, Oceanics, Wettern Bros., Yorkshire TV, AAH, Chloride, Hambros Bank, AGB Research, Woolworth, British & Commonwealth, P & O, BSG, Abbeycrest.
Put: Bristol Channel.
Put & Call: Greenwich Resources.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

	Market rates day's range December 31	Market rates close December 31	1 month	3 months
N York	1.4815-1.4835	1.4740-1.4835	0.55-0.52prem	1.72-1.67prem
Montreal	2.0341-2.0495	2.0445-2.0495	0.50-0.37prem	1.37-1.21prem
Ams'dam	3.2097-3.2398	3.2097-3.2214	1⅝-1⅜prem	4⅜-3⅝prem
Brussels	59.52-60.05	59.82-60.05	17-12prem	47-38prem
C'phgen	10.8258-10.9104	10.8809-10.9104	1¾-1prem	3⅝-2⅝prem
Dublin	1.0477-1.0582	1.0493-1.0503	18-25dis	55-70dis
Frankfurt	2.8430-2.8698	2.8430-2.8543	1⅝-1⅜prem	4½-4⅛prem
Lisbon	214.91-217.12	216.00-217.04	119-198dis	243-337dis
Madrid	194.01-195.82	194.08-195.82	10-35dis	20-76dis
Milan	1979.28-2003.55	1979.28-1989.37	par-3dis	1-8dis
Oslo	10.8258-10.9297	10.8809-10.9104	1⅞-2⅜dis	10⅝-11⅝dis
Paris	9.4297-9.5119	9.4297-9.4721	1⅜-⅞prem	1⅝prem-par
St'khlm	9.9908-10.0731	10.0075-10.0359	1⅞-1⅝prem	4¼-3⅝prem
Tokyo	234.08-236.08	234.08-234.84	1½-1⅛prem	4-3⅝prem
Vienna	20.07-20.22	20.08-20.14	10⅝-8½prem	28⅝-24⅝prem
Zurich	2.3837-2.3977	2.3837-2.3944	1½-1⅜prem	4¼-3⅝prem

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up at 69.2 (day's range 69.1-69.4).

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	1.8580-1.8665
Australia dollar	2.2268-2.2300
Bahrain dinar	0.5585-0.5605
Brazil cruzado*	21.94-22.08
Cyprus pound	0.7380-0.7480
Finland marka	7.0190-7.0990
Greece drachma	205.70-207.70
Hong Kong dollar	11.5330-11.5349
India rupee	19.10-19.30
Iraq dinar	n/a
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4315-0.4355
Malaysia dollar	3.8407-3.8508
Mexico peso	1320.0-1370.0
New Zealand dollar	2.8181-2.8291
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.5375-5.5775
Singapore dollar	3.2148-3.2245
South Africa rand	3.2206-3.2440
U A E dirham	5.4230-5.4630

*Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.4025-1.4100
Singapore	2.1700-2.1750
Malaysia	2.5925-2.5975
Australia	0.6648-0.6653
Canada	1.3805-1.3820
Sweden	6.7500-6.7600
Norway	7.3625-7.3725
Denmark	7.3100-7.3200
West Germany	1.9250-1.9270
Switzerland	1.6085-1.6135
Netherlands	2.1750-2.1780
France	6.3775-6.3875
Japan	158.40-158.60
Italy	1341.0-1345.0
Belgium(Comm)	40.10-40.20
Hong Kong	7.7850-7.7900
Portugal	145.00-146.00
Spain	131.00-131.50
Austria	13.55-13.60

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Extel.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Jan	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
Allied Lyons (*321)	280	43	53	60	1	5	8
	300	23	38	45	1½	8	15
	330	2	18	25	16	22	30
British Gas (*65)	50	15¾	17½	19½	½	½	¾
	60	6	9	12½	½	2	3
	70	1	3¾	6½	5½	6¾	7½
BP (*727)	600	132	140	—	1	5	—
	650	82	92	105	1	11	17
	700	33	47	65	5	25	35
Cons Gold (*677)	550	124	144	—	2	6	—
	600	75	100	110	2	13	17
	650	30	63	80	10	25	35
Courtaulds (*305)	260	49	58	—	1	1½	—
	280	29	40	48	1	3	5
	300	13	25	33	4	8	11
	330	2½	11	19	26	28	30
Com Union (*269)	260	13	22	29	5	10	15
	280	3	13	21	15	20	26
	300	1	7	13	34	38	44
Cable & Wire (*331)	300	34	52	60	1	6	12
	325	13	30	—	6	14	—
	350	2	14	—	22	28	—
	375	1	—	—	45	—	—
GEC (*184)	160	27	33	37	½	2	6
	180	8½	17	24	4	8	12
	200	1½	8	14	17	20	24
Grand Met (*457)	360	102	107	—	1	1	—
	390	72	78	—	1	2	—
	420	42	52	67	1½	8	13
	460	10	30	47	13	26	30
ICI (*1069)	1000	77	95	120	2	14	20
	1050	33	65	85	6	33	37
	1100	6	40	60	34	65	70
	1150	2	20	40	87	97	97
Land Sec (*338)	300	41	51	55	1	3	6
	330	13	30	35	4	8	13
	360	2	13	18	25	25	28
Marks & Spen (*179)	180	5	16	21	4	10	13
	200	1	7	12	23	26	27
	220	½	3	6	43	45	46
Shell Trans (*988)	900	95	108	125	2	12	20
	950	45	68	85	4	25	35
	1000	14	30	55	25	47	57
Trafalgar House (*276)	260	17	28	36	2	7	10
	280	5	16	22	10	16	19
	300	1	8	12	26	29	33
TSB (*77)	70	8½	12	14	¾	2	3
	80	2	6	7½	4½	6	7½
	90	½	3	3½	13½	14	14½

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Beecham (*442)	360	95	—	—	1½	—	—
	390	65	75	83	4	5	10
	420	40	52	63	9	16	18
	460	14	26	40	23	30	38
Boots (*231)	200	37	45	—	1	4	—
	220	23	30	35	6	11	14
	240	9	16	23	14	20	25
BTR (*271)	260	23	31	36	6	10	13
	280	13	19	24	15	21	23
	300	5½	9	—	33	35	—
Bass (*738)	650	107	120	—	3	6	—
	700	65	80	92	9	18	25
	750	30	48	65	35	47	57
Blue Circle (*673)	600	90	105	127	4	10	17
	650	52	68	88	12	22	30
	700	23	37	52	37	45	52
De Beers (*742)	650	135	—	—	12	—	—
	700	95	120	—	20	33	—
	750	70	90	110	40	60	70
	800	38	65	90	80	95	105
Dixons (*318)	300	30	42	50	7	12	18
	330	16	24	32	22	26	30
	360	4	13	—	46	46	—
GKN (*273)	240	42	49	56	2	4	7
	260	27	34	41	6	10	13
	280	15	22	30	12½	20	23
	300	8	—	—	29	—	—
Glaxo (*1048)	900	175	205	—	5	8	—
	950	135	165	195	10	20	25
	1000	95	130	160	18	35	43
	1050	57	95	130	37	53	65
Hanson (*190)	160	34	—	—	1	—	—
	180	17½	24	30	4	6½	7½

	Series	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Hanson (cont)	200	7½	13½	18½	13½	16	18
	220	2½	7	—	31	31½	—
Jaguar (*537)	500	55	73	90	10	17	23
	550	18	40	58	25	32	40
	600	8	—	—	65	—	—
Thorn EMI (*470)	420	67	78	—	2	6	—
	460	37	50	62	12	20	27
	500	15	29	38	34	40	47
	550	5	—	—	83	—	—
Tesco (*396)	360	50	62	73	6	10	14
	390	28	42	52	13	20	25
	420	10	18	30	30	35	38

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Brit Aero (*515)	420	103	110	—	1	2	—
	460	63	73	85	3	6	12
	500	30	43	55	9	17	25
BAT Inds (*463)	390	83	90	—	2	3	—
	420	56	65	78	3	7	13
	460	28	37	53	15	25	30
	500	8	20	32	40	48	50
Barclays (*515)	460	67	75	85	3	6	15
	500	35	47	60	10	22	30
	550	9	22	32	40	47	50
Brit Telecom (*215)	180	38	44	49	¼	2	4½
	200	18	27	33	2	6	9
	220	5	14	17	11	13	18
Cadbury Schwpps (*187)	160	31	35	41	½	2½	5
	180	13	20	26	4	7	11
	200	4½	11	16	14	17	21
Guinness (*289)	280	22	35	40	10	15	20
	300	12	23	30	20	27	32
	330	4	11	18	50	50	52
Ladbroke (*383)	330	60	67	75	1	3	5
	360	33	45	53	4	8	15
	390	12	28	35	16	25	25
LASMO (*162)	130	35	37	—	1	4	—
	140	27	30	35	3	7	9
	160	14	20	25	11	15	18
Midland Bank (*605)	500	117	125	135	2	6	8
	550	72	78	90	5	13	20
	600	30	38	52	13	30	37
P & O (*524)	460	73	85	97	2	7	12
	500	38	52	65	7	17	22
	550	9	23	33	35	45	50
Racal (*192)	160	33	42	50	1½	3	6
	180	17	25	33	5	8	12
	200	6	14	20	14	18	22
RTZ (*705)	550	170	—	—	2	—	—
	600	120	134	—	3	9	—
	650	75	94	112	13	25	30
	700	40	60	75	25	47	55
Vaal Reefs (*81)	70	14	20½	23	1½	4½	5
	80	7½	13½	16	6½	9	10
	90	2½	7½	10½	12	14	16

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Lonrho (*249)	200	54	57	—	1½	3	—
	220	36	40	43	3	7	10
	240	18	24	29	9	14	19
	260	9	13	—	21	28	—

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Tr 11¾% 1991 (*£103)	100	[illegible]	[illegible]	3½	[illegible]	[illegible]	1½
	102	1⅝	2⅜	2½	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	104	[illegible]	1⅛	[illegible]	1⅜	[illegible]	4
Tr 11¾% 03/07 (*£110)	104	7	7⅞	8⅜	[illegible]	1	[illegible]
	106	5½	[illegible]	7	⅝	[illegible]	1⅝
	108	3¾	4⅝	5⅝	[illegible]	[illegible]	2⅝
	110	[illegible]	3⅝	4¼	1⅝	3	3½
	112	[illegible]	2⅜	—	2⅝	4	—
	114	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	4¾	[illegible]	—

		Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
FT-SE Index (*1678)	1550	126½	143	—	—	½	1	—	—
	1575	101½	118	—	—	½	2	—	—
	1600	76½	93	110	120	½	3	7	11
	1625	51½	73	90	100	½	5	12	18
	1650	26½	55	70	82	½	12	18	25
	1675	1½	38	53	66	½	22	28	35

December 31, 1986. Total contracts 18132. Calls 11673. Puts 6459. *Underlying security price.
FT-SE Index. Calls:1143. Puts:302

مكتبة الأمل

STOCK MARKET

Morgan Grenfell share price shaken by resignations

By Michael Clark

The shares of *Morgan Grenfell*, the City's most aggressive merchant bank, continued to plumb new depths yesterday in the wake of the growing *storm* over the Department of Trade and Industry's investigation into Guinness.

The price hit a fresh low of 350p in early trading – and only the appearance of a few bargain-hunters enabled it to halve its initial fall and close a net 9p down at 361p – just 8p above its low for the year.

On Tuesday, the merchant bank announced that it had resigned as the financial adviser to Guinness as a result of *the growing rift* between both sides since the DTI investigation was initiated at the beginning of December. This also led to the resignation of Mr Roger Seelig – one of the City's best known names on *the takeover front* – from the Morgan Grenfell board.

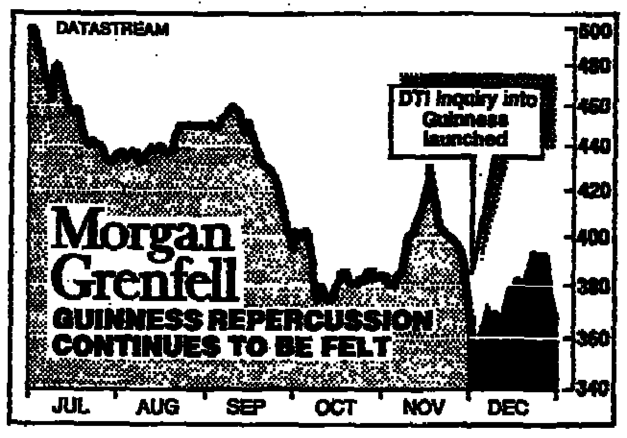
Mr Seelig had worked with Guinness on both the Arthur Bell and Distillers takeovers and had been *instrumental in* their success. He had achieved for the bank a reputation as the best takeover tactician in the City. But some of its *tactics were frowned upon* by the rest of the City, who complained that Morgan Grenfell had sailed too close to the wind.

The market fears that more disturbing disclosures will be made in the Guinness affair and that this will do little to calm *the nerves of those* fund managers who paid 500p for their shares in Morgan when it was floated last July. When it came to market, the group was capitalized at £754 million – but, by last night, its value had *sunk to £544 million.* Guinness slipped by 2p to 288p.

The rest of the equity market ended the old year in a confident mood, with economists still looking for a small cut in interest *rates in the new* year and still convinced that the Chancellor will boost the economy with the promised tax cuts in his Budget.

Dealers reported selective support for the leaders with *Pilkington* advancing 5p to 665p in anticipation of an increased offer from BTR shortly. The FT Index of top 30 shares closed 5.3 up on the day at *1,313.9* – and 182.5 up on the year – while the FT-SE 100 index finished 5.9 higher on the day at 1,679.0.

● Note the recent strength of W Canning, the chemicals group which has been building up a medical business in the US. After languishing in the 120p range, the shares have touched a year's high of 142p from a low of 83p. Good trading prospects rather than bid hopes are probably the reason.



Government securities rose £½ at the longer end, still drawing strength from a steadier pound on the foreign exchanges.

The big four high street clearing banks ended the year on a firm note as investors chased prices higher ahead of the dividend season which starts next month.

Full-year figures are expected to make pleasant reading with all four banks producing some useful profits growth. Brokers such as Savory Milln are looking for pretax profits of £1 billion from Barclays, the biggest of the four, compared with £854 million last time.

Lloyds is expected to increase its profit from £561 million to £665 million and Midland from £304 million to £436 million, while National Westminster should improve its final figure by £161 million to £965 million.

Shares of the leading banks got off to a strong start in early dealings, but showed signs of running out of steam later in the session – then a late surge enabled them to close at about their best levels of the day.

Midland led the way up with a rise of 11p to 605p, closely followed by *Lloyds* 8p to 445p, Barclays 7p to 515p and NatWest 6p to 548p. Even Standard Chartered, which has been under something of a cloud in recent weeks, advanced by 6p to 794p. About 7 per cent of the shares which are held by Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat, the Malaysian businessman, are *still* believed to be overhanging the market following the troubles his family have been experiencing with the National Bank of Brunei.

However, despite fighting off an unwanted, £1.2 billion bid from its rival, *Lloyds* Bank, earlier last year with the *help of Mr Robert Holmes à* Court, the Australian financier, Sir Yue-Kong Pao, the Hong Kong businessman and Tan Sri Khoo, Standard is still being tipped as a likely bid target for this year.

Meanwhile, the **Trustee Savings Bank**, which made its *public debut in September at* 50p in its partly-paid form, was also enjoying selective support. The shares, which in the first few days hit a peak of *102p*, firmed *2p* to *77p* with those investors still holding on to their shares sitting on a 27p premium. The second and final payment of 50p is not due until this September.

● The mysterious Quantum Overseas has been topping up its holding in TV-am with the purchase of an extra 100,000 shares and now owns 2.19 million shares (6.72 per cent). TV-am responded with a 2p to rise to 215p. Quantum is the nominee of Soros, an overseas investment company.

British Gas, which made *its* public debut in November and was the biggest new issue ever handled by the London stock market, ended 1986 on a quiet note. The price of the partly-paid shares closed 1p cheaper at 64.5p, with turnover reduced to 21 million shares – a meagre figure by British Gas standards.

Oil shares remained in a confident mood, cheered by the news that the price of crude oil on the spot market was trading above the $18 a barrel level for the first time since last February.

Opec, the oil exporters' organization, had set a target of $18 after its last round of cuts in production agreed at its meeting in Geneva last month. The price of North Sea Brent crude, for February delivery, was trading at about the $18.10 level yesterday.

Among the oil majors, **BP** rose 7p to 727p as 1.2 million shares changed hands, **Shell** 8p to 988p with 765,000 shares traded, **London & Scottish Marine Oil** 4p to 162p, **Britoil** 2.5p to 171.5p, **Burmah** 13p to 387p, and **Enterprise Oil** 3p to 183p.

Trafalgar House, which has a big interest in the oil industry, rose 3p to 274p on a turnover of 2.1 million shares.

ALPHA STOCKS

These prices are as at 6.45pm

1986 High	1986 Low	Company	Price Bid	Price Offer		Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E	Volume traded '000
363	283	*Allied-Lyons*	319	324	●	+8	14.5	4.5	14.7	395
174	126	ASDA-MFI	155	157		+2	4.5	2.9	17.0	453
455	375	BET	438	442		+2	24.3	5.5	16.0	72
330	241	*BTR*	269	272		..	9.8	3.6	18.9	457
491	361	BAT	462	467		–3	18.4	4.0	12.1	837
572	449	Barclays	513	516		+7	28.1	5.5	7.4	612
840	625	Bass	732	742	●	–8	24.3	3.3	13.1	63
450	356	Beecham	440	444	●	+1	17.1	3.9	18.4	308
726	526	Blue Circle	670	675		–3	30.0	4.5	9.5	169
383	293	BOC	371	373		+1	15.4	4.1	14.5	172
289	170	Boots	230	232	●	..	10.6	4.6	15.1	823
608	423	Br Aerospace	515	517		+5	23.4	4.5	10.9	1,200
65¾	61	Br Gas	64½	65		–¾	9.3	14.4	..	21,000
728	530	*Br Petroleum*	725	730		+8	48.6	6.7	7.9	1,200
280	177½	Br Telecom	214	216	●	+1	11.2	5.2	12.6	2,300
193	98	Britoil	171	172		+2½	9.3	5.4	4.6	7,000
354	256	Burton	284	288	●	+1	8.1	2.8	16.0	1,900
389	277	Cable & Wireless	325	332		..	7.2	2.2	18.0	204
196	158	Cadbury Schweppes	186	188		–1	8.7	4.7	21.8	535
564	426	Coats Viyella	461	464	●	–3	17.9	3.9	13.8	118
336	257	Com Union	268	269		+2½	17.4	6.5	..	687
704	409	Cons Goldfields	670	674		+10	35.0	5.2	19.2	326
330	252	Courtaulds	304	306	●	–2	10.2	3.3	10.3	41
290	201	Dee Corp	210	213		+1	10.6	5.0	17.1	3,200
438	218½	Dixons Grp	316	319		+1	4.3	1.4	22.6	501
650	408	Fisons	532	537	●	..	8.4	1.6	23.8	143
954	701	Gen Accident	800	805	●	+4	34.3	4.3	20.2	104
226	158	GEC	183	185		..	6.3	3.4	11.5	1,400
11¼	756½	*Glaxo*	10⅜	10½		..	20.0	1.9	21.9	289
481	328	Grand Met	454	459		–3	14.6	3.2	13.2	683
11½	721	GUS 'A	10¼	10¼		..	31.4	3.0	14.4	31
774	720	*GRE*	773	777	●	+1	42.5	5.5	22.5	53
385	235	GKN	272	274	●	+5	17.9	6.6	9.2	1,500
355	274	Guinness	285	290	●	–2	11.6	4.0	10.9	2,700
215½	141	Hanson	188	190	●	–1	8.1	3.2	12.0	1,000
623	403	Hawker Siddeley	444	448	●	+3	21.4	4.8	9.8	49
12⅞	734	Imp Chem Ind	10⅝	10¾		..	48.6	4.5	12.0	649
583	335	Jaguar	535	537		+5	12.7	2.4	11.1	815
391	312	Ladbroke	381	388		+1	18.8	4.4	18.3	136
349	278	Land Securities	337	339		..	14.5	4.3	22.6	68
288	133	Legal & Gen	255	258		+2	12.3	4.8	32.7	533
484	288	Lloyds	443	447		+8	25.0	5.8	7.1	830
288	183	Lonrho	248	249		+1½	17.1	6.9	12.2	1,200
231	163	Marks & Spencer	178	180	●	..	5.8	3.2	21.4	802
605	417	*Midland*	603	607		+11	37.1	6.1	22.4	735
593	426	Nat West	545	550		+6	27.6	5.0	5.7	1,000
576	428	P & O Dfrd	522	525		+1	26.4b	5.0	15.0	300
618	383	*Pearson*	613	618		..	15.4	2.5	20.6	841
664	315	Pilkington Bros	658	662	●	..	21.4	3.2	17.5	1,800
246	152	Plessey	184	186		+1	7.2	3.9	13.7	1,700
942	718	*Prudential*	800	805		+1	38.6	4.8	53.0	542
234	146	Racal Elect	191	194		+6	4.3	2.2	20.4	5,900
589	421	Rank Org	523	527		–2	22.5	4.3	18.5	68
900	605	Reckitt & Coleman	882	887	●	–1	23.9	2.8	18.7	22
584½	345	Reuters	550	555		–5	5.4	1.0	41.8	1,100
791	611	RTZ	703	707	●	+6	31.4	4.5	9.3	521
532	365	Rowntree	402	405	●	+4	18.0	4.5	11.2	327
967	762	Royal Ins	845	849	●	+3	38.6	4.6	69.4	218
426	344	Sainsbury (J)	418	420	●	+1	8.4	2.0	24.3	74
148½	104	Sears	123½	124		+¼	5.0	4.0	15.9	2,300
415	300	Sedgwick Gp	300	303		+2	17.1	5.7	14.4	86
998	653	Shell	985	990		+8	51.4	5.2	9.7	765
132	93	Smith & Nephew	124	126		..	3.5	2.8	21.3	475
177	96	STC	173	175		–2	2.1	1.2	16.2	2,200
894	419	Stan Chart	792	795		+6	46.4	5.8	9.8	285
365	256½	Storehouse	284	286	●	–1	11.0	3.9	15.2	170
772	520	Sun Alliance	643	647	●	+6	27.5	4.3	58.1	690
81¼	72	TSB P/P	76½	77		+1¾	6.1	7.9	..	6,300
420	265	Tesco	393	397		+4	8.9	2.3	22.5	390
529	374	Thorn EMI	465	472	●	–2	25.0	5.3	34.3	82
349	209	Trafalgar House	274	276	●	+4	18.9	6.9	10.3	2,100
209	139	Trusthouse Forte	177	179		+1	7.9	4.4	17.6	452
22	13⅛	Unilever	21¾	21⅞		..	60.1	2.8	20.0	30
269	216	Utd Biscuits	232	233	●	+½	13.8b	5.8	12.6	575
236	174	Wellcome	233	234	●	–1½	3.0	1.3	28.7	2,600
925	430	Woolworth	710	713		+2	22.9	3.2	15.3	117

COMMENT

Hopes for a cleaner and fairer 1987

If big equals best, last year was a wonderful one for company mergers and acquisitions. Most observers, though, are likely to prefer other meanings of the word which carry less flattering connotations like gross, bloated or excessive.

Even those of us who believe that great social and economic benefits flow in the long run from the existence of unfettered *capital markets can be* forgiven for casting a leery eye over the goings on *of 1986. It may well be that the old year* marked the zenith of a takeover boom *that became increasingly discredited* as the year wore on.

The theory of merger benefits is fine enough. Acquisitions weed out underutilized and under-priced assets, provide a shot in the arm or occasionally the backside, for dozy, incompetent management. The activities of investors and speculators in takeover bids put a price on companies which provides a benchmark for the efficient allocation of resources *throughout the economy.* Somehow though, 1986 leaves the *overwhelming impression* that the theory and the practice parted company.

Long before the winter snows showed signs of melting, a great controversy arose over the use of so-called dirty tricks in takeover battles. This allowed the popular sheets full rein for lurid tales of *bugging, phone-tapping, industrial* espionage, theft, burglary and other mayhem. With perfect hindsight, it is no surprise that the battle which sparked off this pre-occupation with the (largely imaginary) seamy side of the financial world was the Guinness, Argyll, Distillers affair.

Far more seriously, with Big Bang looming and competition among advisers increasing by the moment, the pressure on the old club rules by which our takeovers have been conducted, buckled and finally gave under the strain.

Nothing *made* the point more forcibly than the Turner & Newall attempt, eventually successful at the second time of asking, to acquire AE. Who could have been expected to know the score better than leading City companies like Cazenove, Hill Samuel and Midland Bank? Yet these three incurred the wrath of the Takeover Panel for what looked *to outsiders like a cynical* disregard for the spirit of the Takeover Code.

In one of the panel's most severe judgements, they were censured for failing to disclose deals to indemnify shareholders who supported the cause of their client. They also merited a tongue-lashing, according to the panel, for blatantly ignoring the spirit of the code which demands that the panel be consulted if there is any doubt at all as to how the code should be interpreted. The three, who should have known better, took legal advice rather than consult the panel.

As the Guinness bid is now starting to demonstrate, the fierce battles of 1986 have led to the greater use of questionable tactics in warehousing shares, providing indemnities to favoured shareholders and the growing use of performance-related payments to underwriters and advisers. These are *surely offensive since they present a* conflict between the best standards of *professional conduct and the desire to* collect the most loot.

Perhaps the cleanest fight of the year was Dixons' bid for Woolworth. It failed, but neither side resorted to mudslinging, character assassination or dubious practices of the kind which marred other battles during the year.

The takeover arena was also stained by the presence of arbitrageurs like the disgraced and disgraceful Ivan Boesky. Under a squeaky clean banner of support for free enterpise and entrepreneurial management, the arbitrageurs worked behind the scenes to their *own advantage in, heaven knows, how* many bids, both real and imagined.

The line between bid arbitrage and stock manipulation can be wafer thin. My guess is that arbitrageurs and their hangers-on could well have been the source of many unfounded stories about imminent takeover bids which failed to materialize. Many investors and commentators found themselves unwittingly caught up in complex webs of *disinformation. Whatever happened to* all those confident predictions of corporate raids on Beecham, Grand Metropolitan, Pearson, Sears and other companies which are suitable cases for treatment.

The arbitrageurs tend to pick on companies like those, with a highly liquid market in their shares and a number of separate divisions offering break-up possibilities, preferably where *recent performance has been dull.* Such organizations last year provided much grist to the *rumour* mill. Many shareholders suffered as a result.

The New Year promises much less fertile times for the takeover industry than 1986. The tide of investor opinion has moved against the excesses of last year. The clampdown against insider *trading and the expected demise of* arbitrage activity will hopefully create a more austere environment.

For the sake of the City and perhaps the Government, so it should. There is little doubt that the Opposition parties feel that they already have sufficient ammunition at their disposal to make an election campaign issue of conduct in *the City.*

If, during 1987, the acquisitive company chairman is forced to rely far more on the merits of his case and far less on the wheeling-dealing, string-pulling, arm-twisting abilities of his advisers, it can be counted as a major gain.

TEMPUS

Something for everyone in this year's share favourites

'The time has come,' the Walrus said,
'To talk of many things:
Of shoes, and ships, and sealing wax,
Of cabbages, and kings,
And why the sea is boiling hot
And whether pigs have wings.'

The time has come for us too to make our selections of stock market winners for 1987. Market considerations are, as always, an important backdrop.

The FT Actuaries all-share index began well this year, soaring by more than 20 per cent in the first quarter. However, it drifted off in April and has only recently recovered, closing the year at a new all-time high.

Looking ahead, the biggest uncertainty hanging over the market is the political one, although, in sentiment terms, the Conservatives' improved showing in recent opinion polls should remove the anxious expressions from many City brows.

A Labour administration, however, need not necessar*ily be bad news for the stock* market, particularly in its early heady days. An inflationary environment can shine a flattering light on company profits and provide opportunities for industry to obtain attractive price rises.

Indeed, there are those who say that the compulsory repatriation of a proportion of the monies presently invested overseas *could stimulate* demand for domestic *equities, thus providing* support for the market.

"Sell in May and go away" may not, therefore, be appropriate advice to follow in 1987.

Not suprisingly, the stocks we have selected vary considerably by size and type of business and make as disparate a collection as the topics chosen for *discussion* by the walrus. On the whole, *however, their attractions do* not derive to any great extent from external political and economic factors.

First on our list is the computer software publishing house **Borland International**, which sells specialist products to the professional computer operator, *pricing its products at* affordable levels. Although much of its success depends on achieving high volumes, this has not been at the expense of quality.

Borland maintains a small team of in-house specialists to update existing material but it avoids high overheads by buying in software material as and when it is needed. This type of operation has been identified by the experts as the thing of the future.

Although based in California, Borland sought a quotation on the Unlisted Securities Market in London last June. One of the reasons given for this move is the potential of the European marketplace.

N Brown Investments, another exciting niche business, is controlled by the Alliance *family* whose best known member, David of Vantona Viyella fame, is chairman. The group is involved in direct mail-order, selling *clothes primarily to the mature* woman of modest means who is built for comfort, not speed.

The mail order market is due for a *shake-up* after strategic moves by several *high street retailers.*

Brown, with its "state of the art" computer back-up – apparently the key to success in this industry – is well placed.

Earnings are expected to grow by more than 60 per cent this year and, if the prototype mail-order catalogue *for* Marks and Spencer takes off, the company's horizons would widen considerably.

Moving further up the retail scale, Sir Ralph Halpern's position as the most *highly-paid director in* Britain is dependent on the performance of the **Burton Group**. No doubt he is looking to pick the fruits of his labours at Debenhams this year to hold on to his crown.

The shares are cheap compared with the rest of the sector. *If consumer spending* remains buoyant, this share should do very well.

William Cook is the smallest company in our selection box – capitalized at only £23 million – but it should still be a treat *for shareholders.*

Cook operates at the top end of *the seemingly* unglamorous steel foundries market but its record shows there is still good money to be made.

Margins and return on capital are well above the industry average and the group should continue to flourish. In the short term, profits will be *pushed ahead* strongly after the acquisition of Weir Foundries, which has not yet been integrated into the group.

Glaxo, by contrast, is our mega-stock for the year – *capitalized at* almost £8 billion. In recent years, attention, both inside and outside the group, has focused on the supremely successful anti-*ulcer drug* Zantac. *However,* increasing interest is being taken in a new drug, Odanserin, which has wide applications in the field of mental health.

Sceptics who were concerned about the company's dependence on Zantac-*related profits* have less grounds for disquiet now, while those already converted to the Glaxo cause are discussing the new product in the hushed tones previously reserved for Zantac alone.

The share price reaction has been modest given the potential of this new drug.

Our investment trust choice for 1987 has a Continental flavour.

Second Market Investment Company, managed by Lombard Odier International Portfolio Management, invests solely in the French equivalent of the Unlisted Securities Market. Activity on the Bourse is increasing, stimulated among other things, by the government's privatization programme.

The trust offers a rare opportunity to invest in one European market. The shares are now selling on a 9 per cent discount to assets – narrow compared to the investment trust market in general. However, other similar Continental trust vehicles are selling on even narrower discounts or in some cases on premiums. *The Second Market* could have some catching up to do.

Steetley, our pick from the building materials sector, has a broadly based product range and is still responding *to the demands of its relatively* new management team.

Since its escape from Hepworth Ceramic in 1983, Steetley has *looked* less vulnerable but, given the quality of its brick and aggregates operations, the group could still attract a predator.

In the meantime, Steetley's underlying business should do well. *The construction* industry is more politically sensitive than most and there is considerable scope for governments of either persuasion to increase the level of activity in the sector.

Our outright punt of the year is **Guinness**. The shares have underperformed the market by 25 per cent in the past year, with the bulk of that in the past few months.

The final act has not yet been reached although the plot is thickening by the day. *However, whatever machinations* may have been going on in high places, at grass roots level the business is in good shape.

Thoughts of a takeover should provide support for the shares, but the long-term effect of the happenings of the past few months on sentiment is still the great unknown quantity.

APPOINTMENTS

NatWest names new director

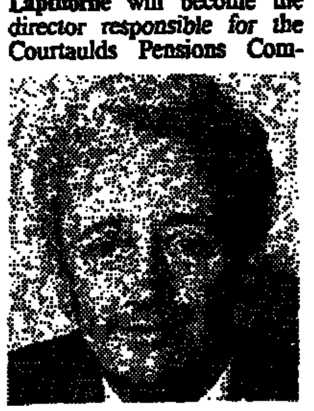
National Westminster Bank: **Mr Geoff Burdett** is now deputy regional director of *the outer London region.* He succeeds **Mr Don Anderson**, who becomes the regional executive director.

Central Independent *Television: Mr* **Leslie Hill** *will be* managing director from February 2. He succeeds Mr Robert Phillis, who leaves at the end of this month.

Biffa Group: Mr **Andy Cooper** has been named chairman, after the recent acquisition of the Brengreen group by BET.

Courtaulds: **Mr M Glynn** has now taken responsibility for the development of the group's packaging interests. *He will become* chairman of BCL and Betts. **Mr GA Campbell** will assume responsibility for the pulp group and **Mr RD Lapthorne** will become the director *responsible for* the Courtaulds Pensions Common Investment Funds, both from February 1.

Leslie Hill



Andy Cooper

British Aerospace: **Mr RH Evans** has succeeded Mr LA Sanson as marketing director. Mr Sanson will continue in service until mid-1987, *assisting Mr Evans.*

IN THE MARKET

Grand Old Duke may rise again to support sterling

The authorities in 1986 succeeded brilliantly in securing their short-term objectives, notably avoiding the knee-jerk or push-*button* pre-January *run* on sterling. They managed this through a subtle reworking of traditional techniques.

Page 475 of the December *issue of the Quarterly Bulletin* provides the clue. With reference to the one percentage point rise in British base rates on October 15, the Bank's *scribes write: "The 1 per cent* increase in the base rates... came at a time when the authorities judged that the market background was ready to stabilize."

In other words, no Duke of York operation, linking interest rates to sterling, and then jobbing against short-term expectations by a subsequent gilt-edged market rally. As the Bank points out, policy considerations did not call for a sharp increase in rates from their high level.

What the authorities did instead in the run-up to the New Year *was to link gilts to* the exchange rate. After Big Bang, gilts sold off steadily so that yields at one point were close to 12 per cent. But the *December rally saw yields* fall by about 50 basis points. The exchange rate strengthened in sympathy, perhaps reflecting foreign buying of London gilts. Interest rates remained stable at the high level.

The authorities successfully introduced a novel permutation between the key cash markets under the Bank's surveillance – forex, *money and gilts.* Effectively, the authorities changed the constant from gilts to rates. They were able to do this because on a broader scale they were exploiting global dynamics of disequilibrium.

Last year was characterized by massive movements in the foreign exchange *markets*, reflecting unprecedented al*terations* in the world net creditor:debtor position.

The terms of trade legacy of the "1986 third oil price shock" leaves Japan as the world's *largest* creditor at $130 billion (£91 billion). Conversely, the US has now liquidated a net foreign asset position worth 5 per cent of GNP and is piling up net external liabilities rapidly. The US current account deficit in *1987* should remain close to $140 billion. Is the dollar still too high?

Within such a confused picture, bond yields and exchange rates are bound *to* go out of line as concepts of value blur. At nearly 12 per cent yields, London gilts were clearly discounting every*thing from a sharp rise in* inflation to perhaps total financial collapse. This time the dynamics worked in the authorities' favour.

Gilts start 1987 looking cheap to the New Boys and expensive to gnarled traders afflicted by terminal *déjà vu*. New Boys exclaim at the yield differentials between London and other financial centres, such as New York and Frankfurt. Cynics wonder just how far gilts can drift from reassuring fundamentals without provoking a big correction. After Big Bang, *the new gilts market* has polarized temporarily between domestic and external concepts of value.

It is impossible to forecast a continuation in this good fortune in *1987*. The Christmas gilts rally has subsumed most of the hidden value in gilts. Domestic fundamentals continue to deteriorate. Bank lending is now running close to £4 billion a *month and the traditional* correlation with external trade is holding up well. This year's current account deficit might close on £1 billion.

Most important of all, fresh attempts to adjust to the West's fundamental disequilibrium are imminent. A realignment within the European Monetary System im*mediately after the German* elections on January 25 seems inevitable. And *the* French are said to have intervened to preserve current parities. The vogue switch in the early part of the year will be from soft to hard currencies, such as the mark and yen. The dollar has been sold heavily *in* the last few trading sessions ahead of this eventuality, falling against both the mark *and* yen.

Sterling may find the going tough, not least because uncertainties surround Britain's fidelity to a fixed DM parity. It is all very well for Whitehall to argue that EMS membership will come, but not yet. Forex traders view with some alarm the spectacle of Britain's attempting to finance excess domestic consumption by the issue of "funny money" bonds, such as index-linked stocks maturing 25 years into the 21st century.

One school of thought has now latched on to the fact that sterling has remained *constant against the dollar in* recent months, rather than the mark, as is popularly assumed. If the view gains ground that Cable (the ster*ling-dollar rate*) is critical then sterling might well fall sharply in the aftermath of any dollar decline. The January sterling crisis may be delayed, not cancelled.

Next date in the authorities' diary must be the General Election, whenever that is. May is a popular choice, June has its charms, and some now see April as a possibility. There is a reasonable chance that sterling will weaken as soon as the date is *announced.* Traders will assume an early election points to mounting pressure on the current account.

Both the New Boys and the cynics may be *right* about the market. Gilts could continue to advance in the early part of the year, with traders goaded by hopes of a really sparkling new tap. But pressures on sterling may oblige the *authorities to revert to* a more traditional way of permutating relationships among the key cash variables. Short-term rates may have to rise to support the currency, in nostalgic recall of the famous Duke. That should be enough to stop gilts in their *tracks.*

Spring may be a little late this year.

Christopher Dunn

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

EY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL
45 717373 (Linkline)

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Gilt & Fixed	108.4	112.9●	+0.3	10.68
High Inc Equity	97.3	103.5c	+0.2	5.02
Worldwide Bond	198.8	272.5●	-2.0	4.55
American Growth	150.8	160.4c	-1.5	0.88
Asian Pacific	61.2	65.0●	-0.2	1.74
Assets & Earns	109.7	116.7●	+0.4	2.45
Capital Reserve	65.8	68.2	..	1.53
Comm & Energy	97.0	103.1	-0.6	1.11
European Capital	101.8	108.2	-0.4	1.17
General	139.3	148.1	+0.1	2.87
Japan	77.2	82.1	-1.1	..
UK Growth Inc	105.2	111.9	+0.2	7.40
Do Accum	152.2	161.9	+0.3	0.97
US Emerging Co's	50.7	53.9●	-0.4	0.69
Equities Progress	208.7	222.0	+0.2	3.28
Masterst Acc	67.2	71.4	-0.3	2.30
American Inc	46.7	49.6	-0.4	5.29

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS
Allied Dunbar Centre Swindon SN1 1EL
0793 610366 & 0793 28291

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
UK Special Sits	230.5	244.3	+0.3	3.27
Growth & Income	135.4	143.5	+0.4	3.16
Capital Trust	225.9	239.5	+0.6	2.89
Balanced	360.4	382.0●	+0.7	3.60
Accum Trust	558.1	591.8	+0.9	3.21
American Income	32.8	34.9	-0.4	4.27
High Income Tst	255.4	270.7	+0.9	4.84
Equity Income	141.6	150.1●	+0.3	5.13
High Yield	147.1	155.9	+0.4	5.42
Govt Secs Trust	27.6	28.8	+0.2	10.07
International	92.8	98.8	-0.9	0.82
Japan Fund	122.7	130.7●	-2.1	0.01
Pacific Trust	204.0	217.3●	-2.9	0.82
Amer Spcl Sits	66.4	70.7	-0.5	1.46
Secs Of Amer Tst	200.1	213.1●	-2.4	0.86
Ald Asset Value	234.2	248.2●	+0.6	3.42
Conv & Gilt Trust	34.2	35.8	+0.1	3.16
Smaller Co's	131.2	139.1	+0.2	3.10
2nd Smaller Co's	168.1	178.1	+0.2	2.28
Recovery Trust	84.0	89.0	+0.1	2.10

ARBUTHNOT SECURITIES
131, Finsbury Pavement, London EC2A 1AY
01-628 9876 01-280 8540/1/2/3

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Capital Growth Inc	58.9	62.9●	+0.2	1.59
Do Accum	67.5	72.1●	+0.2	1.59
Ryl Tst Pacific Basin	150.9	161.3	+0.2	0.74
Do 6% Withdrawal	78.6	84.2	+0.1	0.74
Finance & Property	71.2	76.1	+0.2	3.69
Ryl Tst Fixed & Conv	47.0	49.4	..	8.25
Do Accum	79.8	84.0	..	8.26
Equity Income	78.5	83.9	+0.4	4.55
Do Accum	186.0	198.9	+1.1	4.55
High Yield Income	77.2	82.5●	+0.1	6.56
Do Accum	208.5	222.9●	+0.4	6.56
Intl Income	84.4	90.2	-0.8	2.09
Do Accum	86.7	92.7	-0.8	2.09
Do 5% Withdrwl	78.4	83.9●	-0.8	2.09
Managed Fund	66.2	69.7	-0.3	..
Preference Income	28.0	29.9c	..	10.39

BROWN SHIPLEY
9-17, Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath
0444 458144

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Financial	136.9	145.3	-0.9	2.44
Smaller Co's Acc	240.9	255.0	+1.8	..
Do Income	153.8	162.8	+1.2	0.88
High Income	68.0	72.7	..	5.64
Income	77.8	83.2	+0.4	4.85
Man Portfolio Inc	66.8	71.5	+0.8	2.81
Do Acc	112.8	120.6	+0.4	..
North American	54.4	58.2●	-0.6	1.51
Orient	87.1	93.2	+0.4	0.33

BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT
The Stock Exchange London EC2P 2JT
01-588 2868

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Fellowship Inc	51.0	54.3	..	3.80
General Inc (4)	222.9	233.4●	..	2.87
Do Accum (4)	359.0	375.8	..	2.87
Income Fund (3)	103.6	108.9	..	6.05
Do Accum (3)	185.1	193.4	..	5.05
Intl Inc (2)	135.7	141.9	-1.8	0.87
Do Accum (2)	180.8	188.8	-2.1	0.87
Smaller Inc (5)	60.6	64.6e	..	2.73
Do Accum	65.4	69.9●	..	2.73

CS FUND MANAGERS
125, High Holborn, London WC1V 6PY
01-242 1148

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
CS Japan Fund	84.3	89.7●	-0.9	0.56

CANNON FUND MANAGERS
1, Olympic Way, Wembley, HA9 0NB
01-902 8876

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Growth	295.5	312.7c	+0.3	2.90
Income	343.4	363.4c	+0.8	4.51
Far East	245.5	259.8	+0.6	0.24
North American	146.9	155.5	-1.7	0.59
Global	51.8	54.8	-0.3	0.83
European	57.6	60.9	+0.1	1.23
Japan	61.1	64.7	..	0.50

CAPEL (JAMES) MANAGEMENT
PO Box 551 Bevis Marks London EC3 7JQ
01-621 0011

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Capital	373.0	396.9	+0.2	1.78
Income	287.8	306.2	+2.0	4.86
North American	286.5	304.8	-2.1	1.21

CATER ALLEN
1, King William St. EC4N 7AU
01-623 6314

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Gilt Trust	89.4	94.5	+0.1	12.67

CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND
2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ
01-588 1815

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Inv Fund	413.55		..	4.52
Fixed Int	131.3		..	10.89
Deposit	100.0		..	10.60

CHASE MANHATTAN FUND MANAGERS

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Do Income	131.6	139.9	+1.1	3.23
Higher Inc Accum	257.4	273.8	+2.2	4.38
Do Income	203.4	216.3	+1.8	4.38
Gilts/Fixed Accum	95.6	101.6	+1.1	8.88
Do Income	78.9	84.1	+1.3	8.93
Nth Amer Tst Accum	131.7	140.1	-1.6	0.87
Far East Tst Accum	176.5	187.7	-2.2	0.07
Euro Tst Accum	173.5	184.5	-2.1	0.70
General Trust	242.5	257.9	+1.2	3.34

F & C UNIT MANAGEMENT
1, Laurence Pountney Hill, London EC4R 0BA
01-623 4680

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
US Smaller Co's	68.9	73.4	-0.4	0.22
Capital Fund	112.8	120.2	-1.1	0.28
UK Income Fund	78.7	83.8	+0.5	4.70
Far Eastern Fund	75.6	80.5	-0.8	0.09
Overseas Income	73.8	78.5●	-0.6	3.43
Fixed Interest	54.8	58.3●	+0.1	9.08
Natural Res Fund	48.5	51.6	-0.3	3.50
European Income	85.6	91.3	-1.1	2.77
Financials Fund	48.4	51.5	-0.3	2.81

FS INVESTMENT MANAGERS
190, West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA
041-332 3132

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Balanced Gth Inc	44.5	47.3	..	1.40
Do Accum	45.4	48.3	..	..
Income Gth Inc	40.5	43.1●	..	5.30
Do Accum	43.4	46.2●	..	..
Service Co's Inc	51.5	54.8	..	1.80
Do Accum	52.4	55.7	..	..

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD
River Walk, Tonbridge, TN9 1DY
0732 361144

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
American	103.5	110.5	-1.4	0.81
Amer Equity Income	34.2	36.5	-0.4	4.50
Amer Special Sits	52.1	55.6	-1.8	0.28
Australia	32.8	34.8	-0.4	3.28
European	46.9	49.7	+0.1	0.00
Far East Inc	36.4	38.8●	+0.1	4.02
Gilt & Fixed Int	28.9	30.2	+0.1	9.83
Growth & Income	97.1	103.0●	+0.4	4.60
Japan Special Sits	42.0	44.7	+0.7	..
Japan	180.8	191.0	+2.1	..
Managed Intl	142.5	152.1	-0.5	0.25
Max Income Equity	84.1	88.8●	..	5.07
Professional Gth	34.1	36.4	+0.4	2.36
South East Asia	44.1	47.0	-0.1	0.14
Special Sits	173.4	185.5	-0.8	0.46

FLEMING (ROBERT)
8, Crosby Sq, London EC3A 6AN
01-638 5858

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
American Exempt	£364.8	371.0	..	1.44
Japan Exempt	£464.8	473.7	..	0.74
Am Property Tst	$10006.0	e	..	5.00
Property Trust	£2093.0		..	5.60

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT
3, London Wall Bldgs, London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ
01-628 5181

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Amer & Gen Inc	204.8	216.4	-1.9	..

WINDSOR TRUST MANAGERS LTD
Windsor House, 83, Kingsway, London WC2B 6SD
01-405 8331

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Conv & Equity	49.5	52.7●	+0.2	7.45
Income	57.5	61.2	+0.3	4.79
Growth	57.0	60.7	..	2.04

The prices in this section refer to Tuesday's trading

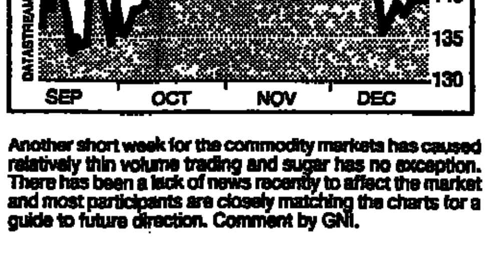
● Ex dividend. c Cum dividend. k Cum stock split. s Ex stock split. m Cum all (any two or more of above). a Ex all (any two or more of above). Dealing or valuation days: (1) Monday. (2) Tuesday (3) Wednesday. (4) Thursday. (5) Friday (20) 25th of month. (21) 2nd Thursday of month. (22) 1st and 3rd Wednesday of month. (23) 20th of month. (24) 3rd Tuesday of month. (25) 1st and 3rd Thursday of month. (26) 4th Tuesday of month. (27) 1st Wednesday of month. (28) Last Thursday of month. (29) 3rd working day of month. (30) 16th of month. (31) 1st working day of month. (32) 20th of month. (33) 1st day of February, May, August, November. (34) Last working day of month. (35) 15th of month. (36) 14th of month. (37) 21st of month. (38) 3rd Wednesday of month. (39) 2nd Wednesday of month. (40) Valued monthly. (41) Last Thursday of Stock Exchange account. (42) Last day of month. (43) 2nd and 4th Wednesday of month. (44) Quarterly. (45) 6th of month. (46) 2nd Tuesday of month.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

COMMODITIES



Another short week for the commodity markets has caused relatively thin volume trading and sugar has no exception. There has been a lack of news recently to affect the market and most participants are closely matching the charts for a guide to future direction. Comment by GNI.

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE
Supplied via Commodity Market Services Ltd

HEAVY FUEL OIL

Jan	96.0-98.0
Feb	95.5-97.5
Mar	94.5-98.58
Apr	unq.-97.5
Vol:	11

GAS OIL

Jan	150.00-49.75
Feb	150.75-50.00
Mar	151.00-50.50
Apr	147.25-48.50
May	144.00-43.00
Jun	143.00-41.50
Jul	147.00-41.50
Aug	147.00-40.00
Sep	147.00-40.00
Vol:	3467

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE
G W Joynson and Co report

SUGAR (From C. Czarnikow)
FOB

Mar	138.0-37.6
May	142.4-42.0
Aug	146.2-45.6
Oct	151.0-50.4
Dec	155.8-53.2
Mar	164.4-62.0
Vol:	515

COCOA

Dec	1386 LT
Mar	1426-25
May	1448-47
Jul	1472-71
Sep	1496-95
Dec	1524-23
Mar	1553-52
Vol:	1215

COFFEE

Jan	1634-32
Mar	1645-42
May	1670-65
Jul	1703-00
Sep	1735-30
Nov	1750-10
Jan	1770-20
Vol:	2962

SOYABEAN

Feb	126.0-25.0
Apr	126.0-24.0
Jun	121.0-20.5
Aug	120.0-19.5
Oct	121.8-20.7
Dec	123.5-22.0
Feb	125.5-23.5
Vol:	3

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices
Official Turnover figures
Price in £ per metric tonne
Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolf & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER GRADE A

Cash	909.00-909.50
Three Months	932.00-932.50
Vol	11350
Tone	Steady

STANDARD CATHODES

Cash	888.00-889.00
Three Months	908.00-909.00
Vol	550
Tone	Quiet

LEAD

Cash	345.00-347.00
Three Months	315.00-316.00
Vol	2500
Tone	Steadier

ZINC HIGH GRADE

Cash	560.00-561.50
Three Months	541.50-542.00
Vol	1250
Tone	Barely Steady

SILVER LARGE

Cash	362.00-363.00
Three Months	371.50-372.50
Vol	1
Tone	Quiet

SILVER SMALL

Cash	362.00-363.00
Three Months	371.50-372.50
Vol	Nil
Tone	Idle

ALUMINIUM

Cash	770.50-771.50
Three Months	785.50-786.00
Vol	2000
Tone	Easier

NICKEL

Cash	2370-2375
Three Months	2430-2432
Vol	210
Tone	Steady

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 31

GB: Cattle, 92.82p per kg lw (+0.42)
GB: Sheep 221.03p per kg* (-20.52)
GB: Pigs, 74.04p per kg lw (+1.09)
* est. dead carcase weight

England and Wales:
Cattle nos. up 166.7 %, ave. price, 93.01p(-0.99)
Sheep nos. up 122.2 %, ave. price, 220.34p(-15.11)
Pig nos. n/a %, ave. price, 74.04p

Scotland:
Cattle nos. up 42.8 %, ave. price, 90.66p(-1.67)
Sheep nos. down 2.4 %, ave. price, 226.94(-18.78)
Pig nos. n/a %, ave. price, n/a

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig Contract p. per kilo

Month	Open	Close
Feb	94.80	94.80
Apr	95.00	95.00
Jun	95.80	95.80
		Vol: 0

Pig Meat vol: 6

Live Cattle Contract
p. per kilo

Month	Open	Close
Feb	96.50	95.50
Apr	101.50	101.50
Jun	101.50	101.50
		Vol: 0

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES
£ per tonne

Month	Wheat Close	Barley Close
Jan	110.50	110.60
Mar	113.10	113.45
May	115.35	114.90
Jul	117.60	unq.
Sep	100.95	100.15
Nov	102.95	102.90

Vol: Wheat 872
Barley 44

LONDON POTATO FUTURES
£ per tonne

Month	Open	Close
Feb	106.00	106.00
Apr	147.00	149.50
May	166.50	168.40
Nov	88.50	89.00
		Vol: 336

BIFFEX
G.N.I. Freight Futures Ltd Dry Cargo Report ($10 per point)

	High/Low	Close
Jan 87	715.0-710.0	712.00
Apr 87	747.0-745.0	747.00
Jul 87	651.0-650.0	651.00
Oct 87	755.0-751.0	754.00

Vol: 127 lots . Open intst: 1995
Spot market commentary:
Dry cargo index:
699.0 up 2.0 on 30/12/86

مكتبة الأهل

Portfolio —Gold—

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Elys (Wimbledon)	Drapery,Stores	
2	Bromsgrove Inds	Industrials A-D	
3	Wade Potteries	Industrials S-Z	
4	Reed Executive	Industrials L-R	
5	Fenner (JH)	Industrials E-K	
6	Bank of Ireland	Banks,Discount	
7	Quest Automation	Electricals	
8	Tomkinsons	Textiles	
9	Dyson (J&J)	Industrials A-D	
10	Lincroft Kilgour	Drapery,Stores	
11	Lon Park Hotels	Hotels,Caterers	
12	Garfunkels	Foods	
13	Bodycote	Industrials A-D	
14	Whitbread Inv	Breweries	
15	Hunterprint	Paper,Print,Adv	
16	Multitone Elect	Electricals	
17	Stone Intl	Electricals	
18	Manganese Bronze	Industrials L-R	
19	Beale (John)	Textiles	
20	Ash & Lacey	Industrials A-D	
21	Trafalgar House	Industrials S-Z	
22	Gen Accident	Insurance	
23	Unigate	Foods	
24	Liberty	Drapery,Stores	
25	Bradford	Property	
26	Rowntree Mac	Foods	
27	Prestwich Hldgs	Industrials L-R	
28	Fothergill & Harvey	Industrials E-K	
29	Tesco	Foods	
30	Erskine House	Industrials E-K	
31	Bramall (CD)	Motors,Aircraft	
32	Jourdan (Thomas)	Industrials E-K	
33	Body Shop	Drapery,Stores	
34	Kelsey Ind	Industrials E-K	
35	Glynwed	Industrials E-K	
36	Thomson T-Line	Industrials S-Z	
37	Hawker Siddley	Industrials E-K	
38	Accord	Newspapers	
39	Kennedy Brookes	Hotels,Caterers	
40	Gold Greenless	Paper,Print,Adv	
41	Enterprise	Oil	
42	ML Hdgs	Industrials L-R	
43	Lep	Industrials L-R	
44	Sovereign	Oil	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.		Daily Total	

Please take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Ringing in the new

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on December 22. Dealings end January 9. §Contango day January 12. Settlement day January 19.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, change and P/E ratio are calculated on the middle price

Portfolio —Gold—

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DAILY DIVIDEND
£4,000
Claims required for
+34 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

BREWERIES

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

CINEMAS AND TV

DRAPERY AND STORES

ELECTRICALS

FINANCE AND LAND

Financial Trusts appear on Page 22

FOODS

HOTELS AND CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A - D

E - K

L - R

S - Z

INSURANCE

Investment Trusts appear on Page 22

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

OIL

OVERSEAS TRADERS

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

PROPERTY

SHIPPING

SHOES AND LEATHER

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

1986 High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
491	381	BAT	462	467	-3	18.4	4.0	12.1
160	108	Carrols	138	143				
181	127	Rothmans 'B'	177	179	● -1	10	5.6	6.3

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

Peter Ball recalls who said what in the world of sport in 1986

Everyone owes tax, don't they?

– Lester Piggott's response in July when his tax problems were revealed

We were very disappointed we couldn't play on Saturday because we had supporters travelling from all over the country. There were two coming from London, one from Newcastle, one from Brighton . . . ***David Kilpatrick***, *Rochdale chairman, on the postponement of his club's FA Cup third round match with Manchester United.*

To date not much is known of the Irish team, the combined efforts of the ABA and of George (We Import More Paddies Every Year) Wimpey having failed to extract the information which makes international matches so much more interesting. *Sponsors' release before an amateur boxing international.*

Our forwards can do things the English forwards cannot. We have hands. ***Jacques Fouroux*** *after France's 29-10 win in Paris.*

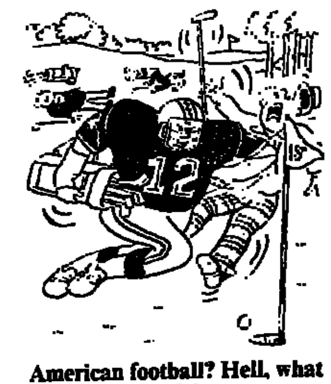
It was not the Liverpool we are used to seeing. I don't know what they were trying to do, and I don't think they knew either. ***Kevin Ratcliffe***, *Everton captain, after his club's 2-0 win at Anfield in February. Three months later Liverpool had pipped Everton for the double.*

A chap who gave out all that good luck to us last season when we won the championship seems to have gone on holiday this year. ***Mick Doyle***, *Ireland's Rugby Union coach, after his side had been whitewashed.*

When you have to spend the tour in your hotel room so you are not stitched up there's something wrong. ***Ian Botham*** *on the media presence in the West Indies.*

My ghost is writing rubbish. ***England player*** *in the West Indies.*

There was a certain gentleman out there who managed to find some practice facilities. ***Ray Illingworth*** *commenting on England's excuse that practice facilities had been unavailable. The 'certain gentleman' was Geoffrey Boycott.*



American football? Hell, what is it? It's a sick game – a whole lot of guys trying to beat the crap out of each other. If I could play golf just as well, I'd do it. *Jim McMahon*, Chicago Bears quarterback.

The net practice was voluntary. ***David Gower*** *explaining a badly attended session in the West Indies.*

I have never felt it more likely that we should see someone killed. ***John Woodcock***, *our Cricket Correspondent, on England's mauling by the West Indies pace attack.*

If we had shown the kind of attitude and guts in the war that our cricketers have in the West Indies, Hitler would have walked over us. ***Brian Close.***

If you get six head balls an over, that's showbiz. ***Phil Edmonds*** *after an assault by Patrick Pattison.*

I love children and I like discos, shopping and most of the other things that appeal to girls of my age. It's just that when I get into the ring I'm a fighter by instinct. ***Lisa Howarth***, *world Thai kickboxing super flyweight champion.*

It'd have had to be six baboons in there to beat me tonight. Des. ***Frank Bruno*** *after knocking out Gerry Coetzee in March.*

Witherspoon was too much of a beast for Bruno. ***Jim Watt***, *former world lightweight champion, on Bruno's defeat in July.*

It's no place for me here – I'd rather be at home reading my Bible. ***Lynette Bruno***, *Frank's mother, at the ringside for the Witherspoon fight.*

If Fulham's first team showed as much skill on the field as they did in bed, they would be in the first division. ***Len Rosendale***, *Fulham coach driver, alleging that his bus had been used for orgies.*

I'd rather have a guy take me to a football match and have a drink afterwards than go to bed with someone. ***Samantha Fox.***

We get all the fights and people sent off. ***Joanne Lloyd***, *Streatham Strikers women's ice-hockey captain, insisting that the women's game is as exciting as the men's.*

It's not an end to my ambition – I haven't played for England a third time yet. ***Geoffrey Boycott*** *on scoring the 150th century of his career.*

The fact is that I have, at various times in the past, smoked pot. ***Ian Botham*** *admitting that a 1984 story about his drug-taking was true.*

I have been to many functions where some great cricketers of the past have been present. To see some of them sink their drink is to witness performances as awe-inspiring as ever any of them displayed on the cricket field. ***Botham*** *defending his use of marijuana.*

Certainly I am told you can play cricket better after a marijuana cigarette than after a couple of pints of beer. ***Lord Wigoder***, *Old Bailey judge and cricket follower.*

What do they expect me to do? Walk round in a tee-shirt with "I'm in Charge" on it? ***David Gower***, *responding to the selectors' doubts about his restrained style of captaincy.*

I collided with the goalie. I'd just scored a cracking goal as well. ***Derek Hatton***, *militant leader and Everton fan, on breaking his leg playing five-a-side football.*

Queremos Frijoles, No Goles (we want beans not goals). ***Mexican steelworkers' banner*** *at the World Cup opening ceremony.*

If our lot (Liverpool) had been out here, we'd have done the treble. ***Jan Molby***, *Denmark and Liverpool midfield player.*

A little bit the hand of God, a little the head of Diego. ***Diego Maradona*** *on his first goal against England.*

With Maradona, even Arsenal would have won it. ***Bobby Robson.***

Diego sometimes disappeared from games in Mexico for long periods. He was waiting for things to happen, not making them. The next four years will really tell us if he deserves to be called an all-time great. He still has more to do to convince me. ***Pele.***

They moved very slowly from one side of the ground to the other. They also complained about the sun's reflection off parked cars. We are just not used to these sort of tactics. ***Audrey Collins***, *Women's Cricket Association, on India bowling eight overs in the penultimate hour against England at Harrogate.*

The MCC should change their name to MCP. ***Diana Edulji***, *Indian women's touring captain, on being refused admission to the Lord's pavilion during the men's Test match.*

Gin-soaked dodderers. ***Ian Botham's*** *description of the selectors at a private dinner in Manchester.*

The easiest job I ever had. Ian told me when he proposed to bowl – and when he was coming off. ***Julian Wyatt***, *Somerset Second XI captain, on discovering Botham in his side after his suspension.*

There is very little common ground between me and the average player. Frankly I think most famous cricketers are too big to play county cricket. ***Botham***, *quoted by Peter Roebuck in* It sort of clicks.

I just bowled straight. It gave me a lot of pleasure, but I can tell you I'm not available for the Australian tour. ***Ken Higgs***, *on taking five for 22 in his first game for Leicestershire for four years at 49.*

If you all hate Harrow, clap your hands! ***Eton boys*** *at Lord's.*

Dis game of tennis, she drop dead if McEnroe don't come back soon. ***Ion Tiriac***, *Becker's manager.*

I'll buy John McEnroe his ticket and hotel next year, so everyone can pick on him instead. ***Ivan Lendl's*** *response to his unpopularity at Wimbledon.*

When Ivan Lendl was winning rounds at Wimbledon, the papers described each success as another demonstration of the benefits of a vegetarian diet, but when Boris Becker finally won, not one put it down to the dietary benefits of Wurst. ***Geoff Harrington***, *director of planning, Meat and Livestock Commission.*

It was like batting against the World XI at one end and Ilford Second XI at the other. ***Anonymous English batsman*** *on Hadlee and his New Zealand colleagues' bowling in the Lord's Test.*

Pavilion steps are the last place you expect to meet a car. You get a few knocks playing cricket but never anything like this. ***Paul Kingsbury***, *Endon (Staffs) batsman, after being knocked over by a runaway car driven by an opponent. Kingsbury lost three pints of blood.*

Just photograph the good side. Know what I mean, Monty?

Frank Bruno to Monty Fresco after his defeat by Tim Witherspoon (Photograph: Monty Fresco, *Daily Mail*)

Golf is the most straightforward, honest competition in the world. There are no substitutes allowed, the game doesn't require a lot of officials. In a goldfish bowl it tests your physical and mental skills, your patience, and your perseverance and you play in all kinds of conditions. You get lousy breaks, and good breaks, and you have to cope. It is almost life. ***Deane Beman***, *Commissioner of the United States PGA and occasional professional player.*

I've appointed Maurice Setters as my assistant. He's well placed, living in Doncaster. ***Jack Charlton***, *Ireland manager.*

I'm gasping for a pint, but quite happy to carry on tomorrow if they want me. ***Bob Taylor*** *after being summoned from the sponsors' tent to act as deputy wicketkeeper in the Lord's Test.*

I shall not be voting, nor can I influence the vote. There are 90 members of the Olympic Committee, and they are all independent. ***Juan Samaranch***, *IOC chairman, on Birmingham's chances in July. Barcelona won the election comfortably.*

I have a love-hate relationship with him. I hate him when I'm in the water, but love him when I get out. ***Sarah Hardcastle***, *Edinburgh Commonwealth Games double gold medal winner, on her coach Mike Higgs.*

Unfortunately the gods weren't shining on the right person. I've waited two long years since LA. Two years for the gold medal in a championship. And now I'm humiliated. ***Fatima Whitbread*** *after being pipped by Tessa Sanderson's final throw in Edinburgh.*

Give me a mended leg and a bottle of Grecian 2000 and I'll be as good as new. ***Peter Reid*** *on his delayed return from injury which kept him sidelined for most of 1986.*

Weathering the storm

This has been one brutal day for golf. Some of the best players in the world have been humiliated out there. *Greg Norman*, the ultimate winner, after the first day of the Open championship in a gale at Turnberry.

It's not a common entrance exam, it's an honours degree. *Michael Bonallack*, Secretary of the Royal and Ancient, defending Turnberry.

If the players thought the rough here was bad, wait until they see Muirfield next year. *Alistair Low*, chairman of Turnberry, replying to the American players' criticisms of the course.

Years ago school staff were willing to devote their spare time to the game and children were proud to play for their school, but not any more. There is no honour attached to the school game any more. ***Robert Lynch***, *secretary, Liverpool Schools FA, on the state of school football.*

We would be against competition during the school day. If competition takes place in inter-school matches, then that is an extra-curricula activity and should be taking place after 4pm or on Saturday mornings. ***Carole Rowbotham***, *ILEA senior PE inspector.*

Some of their players had big bellies and one of their defenders looked nearer 40 than 30. *Jim Hagan*, Birmingham City defender, on the Altrincham team which knocked his side out of the FA Cup.

Some local education authorities actually think competitive sport is bad for children. They'll be telling us next that water doesn't suit goldfish. ***Dick Tracey***, *Minister of Sport.*

Hundreds of sports grounds are being sold off to developers secretly as there's no requirement to notify the Government. It is causing us serious concern that many children are not getting the chance to play football or cricket. ***Nigel Hooks***, *CCPR technical officer, on local councils' response to the Government's encouragement of councils to dispose of surplus land.*

It seems to us ironic that politicians are always quick to cash in on sporting success but not so quick to lend financial support. ***Arthur McAllister***, *AAA chairman, on the Government's decision to freeze the Sports Council grant.*

I don't expect to have to pay for my racing. ***A Royal Yacht Squadron member*** *hearing that Cowes Week had financial problems.*

Ten per cent of the boats on the Solent never go beyond the Needles, but a large slice of those who matter in British industry are down here. ***Brian Hulme***, *chairman of Sandhurst Office Equipment, explaining his firm's sponsorship of Cowes Week.*

You can kick to touch any day, but you only live once. ***Jonathan Davies***, *Welsh stand-off, on his adventurous style.*

Rugby is a physical game and there is no place for the delicate sex. ***John Jeavons-Fellows***, *North Midlands representative on the RFU.*

It wasn't the light that bothered me so much as the pounding of my heart as the ball came down. ***Graeme Fowler*** *on the catch which dismissed Jesty and took Lancashire into the NatWest final.*

It was a lovely gesture. It probably stuffed me, but that is not an excuse. ***Clive Lloyd*** *on the standing ovation as he went to the wicket in the NatWest trophy final. Lloyd scored a duck.*

To bring clubs like Manchester United and Tottenham to a ground like Wimbledon's is ridiculous. ***Ted Croker***, *FA secretary, advocating the abolition of promotion and relegation.*

I should think the only time he has ever been to Wimbledon is to see the ladies' tennis finals. ***Dave Bassett***, *Wimbledon manager replying to Croker.*

I wrote to Dave Bassett and thanked him for taking Wimbledon into the first division. I realize their arrival would deflect a lot of the abuse hurled at us. Compared with them we're supposed to be cultured. ***Howard Wilkinson***, *Sheffield Wednesday manager.*

I've heard the manager is going to give me a medal. If I was a car they would have to turn the clock back. ***Nigel Worthington***, *Sheffield Wednesday defender, on surviving five years of Wilkinson's rigorous training.*

They'll all be dead by 26. ***Nico Claesen***, *Tottenham and Belgium forward, on his first encounter with Sheffield Wednesday's style.*

All the matches won't be like this, will they? ***Terry Butcher*** *on his debut for Rangers agains Hibs. Eight players were booked and Souness sent off.*

If I had my way Celtic would make an immediate application to join the English League. ***David Hay***, *Celtic manager, after his team had seven players booked, one sent off and lost to Rangers on a disputed penalty in the Skol Cup final.*

Familiarity breeds aggravation. ***Billy McNeill*** *on the effect of Scottish premier division clubs meeting four or more times a season.*

I have refereed a lot of Scottish matches in my time, but never one like this. Both teams went out not to play football but to kick each other. ***Alex Ponnet***, *Belgian referee, after sending off two Rangers players in their UEFA cup match with Borussia Mönchengladbach in December.*

As far as I'm concerned you are part of the buildings and the furniture at Somerset, and so are Vic and Ian . . . I hope that you'll be able to play with us until those legs turn to jelly, because I think that you and I and Ian and Vic are Somerset players right down to our bootstraps. ***Peter Roebuck's*** *letter to Viv Richards when he was appointed as Somerset captain in place of Botham.*

When you have two workhorses and shoot them in the back, I think it's evil. You don't treat animals in this way. I was blindfolded, led up an alley and assassinated. ***Viv Richards*** *on hearing in August that Somerset were not renewing his contract.*

I don't take back a word of what I said. But over the season my feelings changed. ***Roebuck*** *explaining his change of position in October.*

I earn every penny. ***Lawrie McMenemy*** *justifying his £166,078 salary as Sunderland's managing director.*

I only earn half as much as Bobby Robson and a third as much as Sunderland's Lawrie McMenemy. ***Brian Clough*** *anticipating his need to continue in management having earlier said he would retire at 50.*

The League pays pretty good. Money is a great incentive in sport. In fact to be truthful it's the only reason I'm doing it. I'd rather be catching pigs any day. ***Noel "Crusher" Cleal***, *Australian second row forward and boar hunter.*

Oh, ay, we've got a plan. We've had one all along, it's just that we haven't been able to use t'booger. ***Maurice Bamford***, *then Great Britain Rugby League coach, after the two thrashings by the Australians.*

When I was younger, yeah, sure, I used to make love, go training, make love, fight and then make love again when I'd finished. But now I'm champion of the world I can't do that. I've got to set an example to young kids. But I'm not reformed. ***Lloyd Honeyghan***, *world welterweight champion.*

I like being famous and being on television and being successful. It's compensation for all the awful wet Mondays on no-hopers at Leicester or Wolverhampton. ***Steve Smith Eccles***, *National Hunt jockey and author.*

Listen, I'm not going to carry the can for this club's not winning the title. ***Ron Atkinson***, *then Manchester United manager, in September. A month later he did.*

A young bloke swore at a policeman. The kid ran away and was caught and locked up for the night. I told the boy I was fining him, not for swearing but for allowing a copper to catch him. I told him as a young, fit player he should be ashamed of himself. The kid just creased up laughing. That's management. ***Alan Ball***, *Portsmouth manager.*

Oh well, back to work tomorrow morning – nine o'clock sharp. But I might go in wearing my silver medal. ***Richard Leman***, *England hockey player, after the World Cup final v Australia.*

We need to lose our middle-class image. I'd like to see kids playing this game in the streets of cities like Liverpool. ***Ian Taylor***, *England goalkeeper, on hockey's prospects of building on its popularity during the World Cup.*

Away games are more like school outings. We have problems with acne rather than injuries. ***Brian Clough*** *on the youth of his Nottingham Forest side leading the first division in the autumn.*

Let he who is without sin cast the first stone. I haven't seen a bloody ripple yet. ***Ray Prosser***, *Pontypool coach, on the prosecution of Pontypool halfback David Bishop for punching Chris Jarman. Jarman was knocked unconscious for four minutes and Bishop was initially given a month's jail sentence.*

Overall, I hope it's Newport. ***Bishop*** *waiting to hear the appeal court's verdict which would decide whether he played at Newport or began his month's jail sentence in Wormwood Scrubs.*

Violence on the rugby field is a bore. ***Denis Thatcher***, *former Rugby Union referee.*

I could go out and buy Henry Cooper if I wanted a player like that. ***David Pleat***, *Spurs manager, on Wimbledon's John Fashanu after a brawling match at White Hart Lane.*

It was a case of handbags at three paces and he was unlucky. ***John Hollins***, *Chelsea manager after his defender Doug Rougvie had been sent off for tangling with Fashanu.*

Life's full of meetings now. I never used to have anything to have a meeting about. ***Joe Johnson***, *world snooker champion, explaining why he had had only 18 hours practice in the 12 weeks after winning the championship.*

We want him – we get him. ***Gianpiero Boniperti***, *president of Juventus, dismissing suggestions that Rush would not join them after all.*

My lads went bonkers over this. They don't want queers and lesbians in the changing rooms. ***Jim Tripp***, *Ealing Town FC chairman, on a council edict requiring positive discrimination from council grant recipients.*

No fun at the Games

It's a shambles. The only communication I've received was a letter telling me to make my own way to Edinburgh. *Steve Ovett* on the disorganization leading up to the Commonwealth Games.

Their efforts have brought shame and embarrassment to Scotland. Editorial in *The Scotsman* on the Commonwealth Games organizing committee.

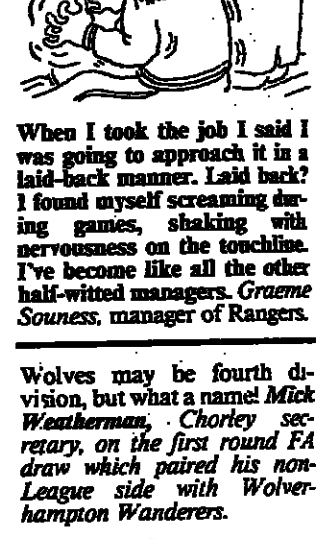
I don't want to have anything to do with Mrs Thatcher. These are not Mrs Thatcher's games – they are Edinburgh's games, Scotland's games, the Commonwealth's games. If I get a deficit, clearly she should look forward to receiving a bill from this organization. *Robert Maxwell* in his role as joint chairman of the Commonwealth Games organizing committee

This committee has done for fair play what Colonel Gadaffi has done for air safety. ***Jan Foley***, *Bristol barrister, putting the rebels' case at the Somerset special general meeting.*

We had great difficulty this summer in getting him (Richards) to play in our evening pub games – he declined to play at Clevedon, Truro and Braunton, and the only reason he played at Ottery St Mary was when we reminded him they had staged a benefit match for him a year before. ***Michael Hill***, *Somerset chairman, defending the committee's decision.*

I'm told Peter Roebuck is flying out to have a man-to-man talk with me. I suggest he stays in London. He'll be a whole lot safer there. ***Ian Botham*** *on receiving the news of the Somerset decision while in Australia.*

Artificial pitches might be good for individual clubs but they are no damned good for football. Let those clubs that want them break away from the Football League. They can ban visiting supporters if they so wish, they can call themselves the "David Evans League" if they like, but for God's sake leave the rest of us alone. ***Howard Kendall***, *Everton manager.*



When I took the job I said I was going to approach it in a laid-back manner. Laid back? I found myself screaming during games, shaking with nervousness on the touchline. I've become like all the other half-witted managers. *Graeme Souness*, manager of Rangers.

Wolves may be fourth division, but what a name! ***Mick Weatherman***, *Chorley secretary, on the first round FA draw which paired his non-League side with Wolverhampton Wanderers.*

We accepted very generous donations while we were there. ***Colin Meads***, *coach to the unofficial New Zealand Cavaliers in South Africa.*

It was always thought that members would fight with gloves on. ***Bob Weighill***, *secretary of the International Rugby Board, on South Africa's ignoring the ban on New Zealand Cavaliers tour.*

The people are like hungry wolves; if you throw them some meat, they want more. ***Dr Danie Craven***, *South African rugby board chairman, on the growing pressure for more "rebel" tours after the New Zealand Cavaliers' visit.*

We see rugby tours as important to our international position. ***Dr Stoffel van der Merwe, MP***, *deputy head of the South African National Party information division.*

I remember praying "Lord, thy will be done." Afterwards I was thrilled by the answer to the prayer and by how the Lord had used me as a witness in this way. ***Meredith Marshall*** *on winning the Scottish ladies' open golf championship.*

It was up to them to attack – after all, they were at home. ***Sandro Altobelli***, *Inter forward, after 0-0 draw with neighbours Milan. The teams share the San Siro stadium.*

Many clubs have expressed concern about the transmission of AIDS, but our doctor has assured them that the game of rugby is a perfectly safe activity from this threat. ***Dudley Wood***, *RFU secretary.*

I might catch a little if there isn't a ball game to watch. ***Ronald Reagan*** *when asked if he proposed to watch the televised Congressional inquiry into Irangate.*

Passengers are reminded that they should be as quiet as possible during this trip because Mike Gatting is trying to catch up on his sleep. ***Air hostess*** *on the Melbourne to Adelaide flight after Gatting had turned up late for play through oversleeping.*

Hobbs, Hammond and Broad: it doesn't quite ring true, does it? ***Chris Broad*** *on becoming the third Englishman to score centuries in three successive Tests in a series against Australia.*

Peter Ball's collections, *The Book of Football Quotations* (with Phil Shaw) and *The Book of Cricket Quotations* (with David Hopps) are published by Stanley Paul.

Cartoons by KEN PYNE

Why the Am
breaking w

Australians with
pride at stake

Sri Lanka baffled an
beaten by Maninde

YACHTING: SYNDICATES ABOUT TO DEMAND MORE FOR THEIR MONEY

Why the America's Cup is breaking with the past

From David Miller
Fremantle

Conner: In form

If Dennis Conner regains the America's Cup for the United States – and his form in the semi-finals so far suggests that is a strong possibility – the opportunity to be host harbour for the 1990 defence will be put out to tender, rather like the Olympic Games.

The experience of 1983, under the autocratic control of the New York Yacht Club, taught a lot of syndicates a lot of lessons: foremost, that syndicates putting up millions of dollars to create a racing series which has become worldwide news, should be more self-determining and less subject to the whims of the yacht club through whom their entry is made.

The Sail America syndicate backing Conner's Stars and Stripes has an agreement with San Diego Yacht Club which, should Conner win, will leave more of the initiative for the defence with the syndicate. They will be looking for a harbour which can not only handle 20 to 30 12-metre yachts and a quarter of a million spectators, but which will have the support of local government backing to give guarantees on basic expenditure to the competing boats.

Two other syndicates have had the same relationship with their clubs: New Zealand with the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron and White Crusader with Royal Thames. Graham Walker's syndicate, for which he supplied much of the finance, sadly under-performed with a fast boat in the third round robin – more of that in a moment – but had they brought the cup back to Britain after 135 years they were to have negotiated with half a dozen harbours in England, Scotland — and Gibraltar.

The America's Cup now requires such investment, and promotes such a lift in local development and business for the host city, that it is reasonable for that city to be expected, as in the Olympics, to subsidize the competitors.

Michael Fay, the millionaire merchant banker who is the motivating force behind the Kiwi boat, says: "The America's Cup is now a billion dollar industry, and I couldn't tell you how many billion. The benefits to the defending nation cannot be estimated. It is the best calling card in the world. We may or may not be the next defenders. We like to think we have a chance.

"The next America's Cup will be even bigger – with West Germany, Japan, Sweden, Hong Kong, Denmark and others entering – but it will only be bigger if there is good decision-making, and successful marketing. For New Zealand, 1990 would be a marvellous year to stage the cup, coinciding with the Commonwealth Games in Auckland and the 150th anniversary of European settlement.

"Properly organized, the America's Cup can become an international event on a par with the World Cup in football, the Olympics, or a Royal Wedding."

Fay, Walker and Conner have recognized reality in a way which, ironically, Alan Bond never did. Bond spent 13 years and countless millions winning the cup, and then found he did not own it. The Royal Perth Yacht Club does.

Bond has to ask permission, like you or I, even to look at it in its vault and he cannot use the cup on his current defence campaign logo. Kevin Parry, whose giant business co-operative is said to have spent $A30 million on the three-boat Kookaburra campaign, could retain the cup for Australia and he would not own it, RPYC would.

"It is obviously out of proportion that a yacht club spending a million dollars should have more rights than a syndicate spending 25 million," Walker says.

It is the British who, in spite of frustratingly falling short with a boat which should have reached the semi-finals, have co-ordinated leadership within the 12-Metre Association. The International Yacht Racing Union were put to flight – though not in time for this competition – on the use of sponsors names on boats and sails; being told that if they did not like it, the Association would work outside IYRU authority, which they did not need.

TV missing its chance

It has been observed that the Dean of St Paul's could have secured the maintenance of Wren's masterpiece for the next 500 years had he marketed the television rights of the wedding of Charles and Diana. The major remaining controversy here, leaving aside the Kiwis' plastic hull, is the handling of the television rights by the International Management Group on behalf of RPYC.

Many of the sponsors of the five American syndicates have been exasperated by their lack of exposure, though some have, contradictorily, had to be persuaded of the importance of commercialism.

IMG's exclusive deal with a single television network has, to a great extent, kept television off the screens rather than got it onto them, with threats of legal action against anybody taking unauthorized film. The legality of television rights on the high seas has yet to be tested.

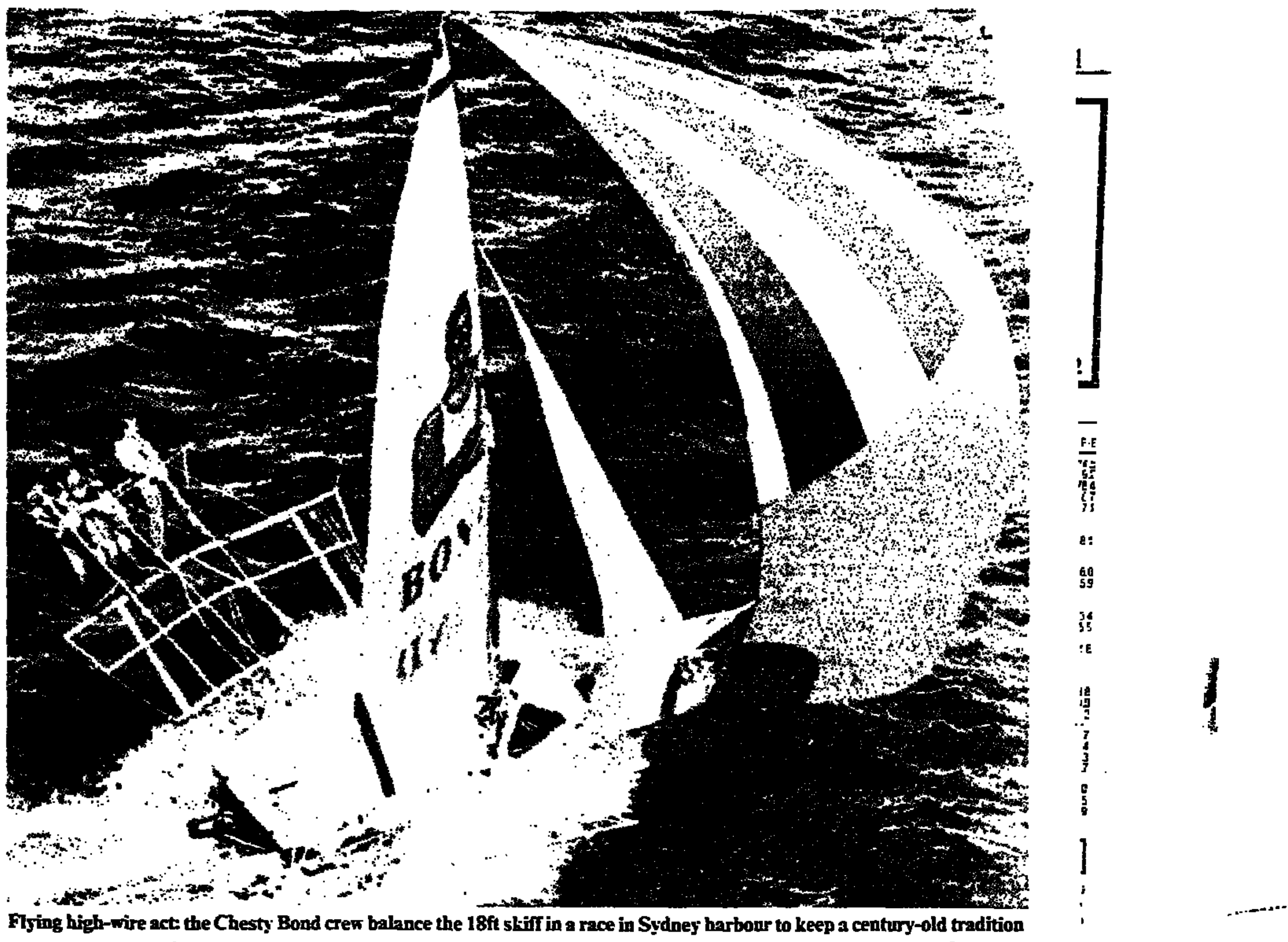
A result of IMG's tough marketing is that outside Australia only a few million people around the world are seeing televised action from the course. Many syndicates believe that in order to establish the America's Cup as a major media event, it should be open to anyone who will take it.

Cudmore's turmoil

The post mortem examination continues on White Crusader. Harold Cudmore, that extrovert Irishman whose enthusiasm was largely responsible for whipping the British campaign into action on the water and for exhorting the administrators behind closed doors, is left wondering whether he blew it. Did he put undue stress upon the spars and rigging with his last-ditch tactics?

The conclusion seems to be that while White Crusader would not have got far without Cudmore, he may have restricted them getting any further. It is a tough piece of self-analysis for him to undergo, and also for Walker, his loyal supporter.

There is little doubt that Cudmore will continue to be a prominent figure in any future British challenge, though possibly off the boat. There was stress on the crew as well as the equipment, partially because of the shortage of time for preparation and the lack of finance. Yet Cudmore remains buoyant.



Flying high-wire act: the Chesty Bond crew balance the 18ft skiff in a race in Sydney harbour to keep a century-old tradition

Floating a company and a new series

From Barry Pickthall, Fremantle

Two Australians believe sailing will soon become as popular on television as snooker and darts and floated a $5.8 million (about £4 million) company on the Sydney stock exchange last week to capitalize on the growing interest from public and sponsors in the world of capsizes, billowing sails and icy spray.

John Cornell, who dreamed up World Series Cricket for Kerry Packer's Channel 9 TV station and recently produced Paul Hogan's cinema success *Crocodile Dundee*, has teamed up with Michael Edgley, the Sydney-based entrepreneur behind Torvill and Dean's *Fire and Ice* spectacular, to start a series of five waterborne events.

Titled Grand-Prix Sailing, Edgley has already signed some of the best dinghy talent, including Russell Coutts, from New Zealand and Jonathan Mckee, of the United States, the Olympic champions, to battle against the best Australian skiff sailors, starting in Perth this month.

The 14 skiffs which may include Jeremy Sharp who emigrated to Sydney from Britain five years ago to race these three-man trapeze boats, then move to Auckland at Easter, Clear lake, Texas (May), Portoroz, Yugoslavia (October) and Sydney, birthplace to this class, at Christmas.

If the series proves a success —and so far ABC in Australia and the American ESPN sports cable service, have guaranteed coverage – the organizers plan to extend the series to Britain in 1988 before expanding to include 11 venues by 1991.

The 18 ft skiffs began racing in the 1880s in Sydney and were crewed by 'wharfies' cocking a snook at the yachting toffs. Then they were heavy clinker built workboats, carrying up to 18 crew who bailed and brawled their way around the harbour. Competition was intense and bookmakers did a roaring trade. Today, the boats have become high-tech, flying billboards, carrying sponsors names on their sails that cost $100,000 each and a three-man crew perched precariously on tubular outriggers balancing up to 1,800 sq ft of sail.

Rob Brown, the world champion, likens them to Formula One racing cars. "This is the hardest sailing you can do. Because the boats carry so much sail, your anticipation has to be so much quicker. They can reach 30 knots and sometimes the boats capsize - that's the most dangerous part. You're doing 25-30 knots and all of a sudden the boat stops. The crew are thrown, you hit the stays or the boat . . . and know it."

It is this drama that Edgley intends to capture in the confined space of river estuaries and lakes around the world. With $750,000 in prize-money initially, he expects to provide a visual alternative to a sport once staid and conservative.

CRICKET

Australians with pride at stake

From Ivo Tennant, Cape Town

Now that the Ashes have been lost, the series here between South Africa and the unofficial Australians has assumed a new perspective for the public Down Under. National pride must be restored.

The second five-day international, which starts at Newlands today, is not, of course, Test cricket, although that is what it is dubbed here. If, though, it is played as keenly as the corresponding match a year ago, it will be as good as South Africa could stage in their continuing isolation. Inevitably, the lack of Tests and tours has had a considerable effect on the game here – on the umpiring, not least – although today's South African side are probably strong enough to give every Test-playing country other than West Indies a good game.

Thus far, the Australian tour, which ends in February, has passed with few incidents. Indeed, the sole controversy has arisen over the qulaity of the umpiring, which both captains, Hughes, of Australia, and Rice, of South Africa, have criticized. Earlier in the tour stones were thrown through windows at the homes of two cricket officials and a representative of the sponsors, National Panasonic, but it is thought students rather than activists were responsible.

Attendances have been up on those for the Australians' first tour, although only 31,100 were at Johannesburg for the four days of the first match in the series. It was won by South Africa who looked to have a distinct edge.

Today, they have Graeme Pollock, one of the greatest batsmen in the history of the game, back in their side after missing the match at Johannesburg owing to injury. On New Year's Day last year, 22 years after his Test debut, he made 79 through that wonderful sense of timing. Two strokes, a cover drive and a nonchalant forcing shot over long-on off the back foot, were of a quality I had not seen before.

Should he score a century in this match, there will not be a dry eye in the ground. This is his last season. The pitch has a little more grass left on than usual but should still have plenty of runs in it. However, rain is forecast and Hughes will not name his team until this morning. Neither side are as strong as when their two countries last played each other in official Test cricket in 1970, yet there is no place in the match for players of the calibre of the Australian, Alderman, and the South African, McEwan, two of the most successful imports to England.

SOUTH AFRICA (from): C E B Rice (captain), S J Cook, B Whitfield, P N Kirsten, R G Pollock, B McMillan, K A McKenzie, D Richardson, G S le Roux, H A Page, S Jefferies, A J Kourie.
AUSTRALIANS (from): K J Hughes (captain), S Smith, J Dyson, K Wessels, M D Taylor, M D Haysman, T V Hohns, S Rixon, J Maguire, R McCurdy, R Hogg, C G Rackemann, P N Faulkner.

Rice plays on

Clive Rice, the captain of South Africa, said yesterday that he would retire from English county cricket after next season. Rice, aged 37, had threatened to leave Nottinghamshire at the end of last summer if Richard Hadlee retired. "I thought the burden on me would be too great and I still do not know whether or not Richard is staying," he said. "I have decided to play one more season."

Sri Lanka baffled and beaten by Maninder

Nagpur (Reuter) – Maninder Singh took seven wickets for 51 as India beat Sri Lanka by an innings and 106 runs in the second Test here yesterday to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series. It was India's first Test victory over Sri Lanka.

Maninder produced a superb display of spin bowling on a slow turning pitch to return the best figures of his Test career. He was given able support by Yadav, who took two for 21. Sri Lanka were all out for 141 half an hour before the close on the fourth day. India had declared at lunch on 451 for six.

"The Sri Lankan batsmen do not have much experience against spin," Kapil Dev, the Indian captain, said. "Once we took the first five wickets, I was confident we would wrap up the match today."

Vengsarkar and Gavaskar attacked the bowling with venom when India resumed at 324 for three. Gavaskar was the dominant partner in a stand of 116, scoring 74 off 79 balls with three sixes (including two from consecutive balls from Ranatunga) and two fours.

Maninder, fighting the ball, teased the Sri Lankans into giving catches to a cordon of fielders close to the wicket. His best delivery was one which curled round Dias to hit the stumps and leave the batsman dumbfounded.

Only Ratnayake and Mendis who added 65 for the fifth wicket, managed to survive for any length of time before Mendis took a wild sweep at Maninder and was bowled. Ratnayake, who was out leg-before, threw down his bat at the decision and angrily left the field. The third and final Test begins in Cuttack on Saturday.

SRI LANKA: First Innings 204 (A Ranatunga 59; N S Yadav 5 for 76)
Second Innings
S Wettimuny c Srikkanth b Kapil Dev — 6
J R Ratnayeke c Gavaskar b Maninder 54
A P Gurusinghe c and b Yadav — 15
R L Dias b Maninder — 2
P A de Silva c sub b Maninder — 6
*L R D Mendis b Maninder — 38
A Ranatunga c Gavaskar b Maninder — 5
B R Jurangpathy c Vengsarkar b Yadav 0
E A R de Silva c Srikkanth b Maninder 0
R J Ratnayake not out — 4
†R G de Alwis c More b Maninder — 0
Extras (b 4, lb 5, nb 2) — 11
Total — 141
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-42, 3-47, 4-57, 5-122, 6-132, 7-137, 8-137, 9-141, 10-141.
BOWLING: Kapil Dev 6-1-16-1; Sharma 5-0-14-0; Yadav 14-6-21-2; Maninder 17.4-4-51-7; Shastri 6-0-30-0.
INDIA: First Innings
K Srikkanth c de Alwis b Ratnayake — 4
R Lamba c J'pathy b E A R de Silva — 4
M Amarnath c sub b Jurangpathy — 131
D Vengsarkar c Jurangpathy b Ratnayake 153
S M Gavaskar c de Silva b Gurusinghe 74
*Kapil Dev not out — 11
R J Shastri c sub b Gurusinghe — 14
Extras (b 4, lb 7, w 1, nb 8) — [illegible]
Total (6 wkts dec) — 451
†K S More, Maninder Singh, C Sharma and N S Yadav did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-131, 3-304, 4-420, 5-428, 6-451.
BOWLING: Ratnayake 35-3-139-2; Ratnayeke 26-4-89-0; Ranatunga 8-1-34-0; E A R de Silva 38-2-61-1; Jurangpathy 21-3-69-1; Gurusinghe 15-0-53-2.

TENNIS: FIRED ATP DIRECTOR IS COOKING UP NEW IDEAS

Rough and tumble times of Davies, a Welsh hot potato

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Davies: poverty to power

Mike Davies deserves a movie all to himself. His first 50 years had the basic material from which many a good movie has been made: poverty to power, plus an often tumultuous private life. Davies, in fact, approaches his 51st birthday on January 9 with a movie in mind – but if it happens it will concern the history of tennis rather than the background of Davies.

Until last August he was executive director of the Association of Tennis Professionals and chairman of the Men's International Professional Tennis Council, the self-styled governing body of men's professional tennis. As an administrator Davies had gone as far as he could go.

In August he lost both jobs when the ATP board of directors decided they needed a change at the top and, as they put it, "terminated" his contract. Davies does not mince words. "I was fired," he says.

Davies has lived in the United States for almost 23 years. He has travelled a hard road from Swansea to Texas, is still full of running, and is exploring three possibilities. For example, he has just been to St Louis for discussions with a company who make sports movies. "It would be a high budget movie," he says, "and to do it really well would take up to two years." Basically, his own role in such a history of tennis would be that of producer.

A second possibility is that Davies may run the new, Miami site of the annual Lipton international players' championships. The complex is to be developed as a tennis resort and "academy."

His third option could involve joining the manufacturers of a new court surface. So this street-smart enthusiast for any and every challenge has three pots on the boil.

Well, Davies was never a man to sit on his backside and wait for something to happen. During his Swansea boyhood, when the family could not afford to pay for his equipment and entry fees, Davies needed money in order to compete in the Welsh championships. For a week, he arose at 3am and caught a bus to a farm to pick potatoes.

That was the first money Davies earned. Later he was to learn the knack of hitch-hiking, sleeping under hedges, and doing business at the pawn shop. But by 1956, when British rankings were reintroduced for the first time since 1938, Davies was No. 1. He retained that position in the next two years.

From 1955 to 1960, Davies won 15 of his 22 Davis Cup singles and nine of his 15 doubles with Bobby Wilson, Billy Knight or Roger Becker. Wilson had seven Davis Cup partners and reckons Davies (who nagged him into anger and brilliant shot-making) was the best of them.

As a player Davies was shrewd and sound and renowned for his fighting spirit, but lacked the penetration of shot to go to the top. But in 1960 he won the singles and doubles in the British hard court championships, reached the Wimbledon doubles final with Wilson, and signed a professional contract with Jack Kramer.

Davies stayed on tour until 1967, the last year before the introduction of open competition, but was out of his depth and had to find part-time work as coach to the German, Italian and Belgian Davis Cup teams. Twice he flirted with the idea of leaving tennis and going into business: noteably when he emigrated to the United States in 1964 with a wife, a son, but no real job.

Somehow Davies made ends meet for the last four years of his professional career and already the second-phase Davies, the administrator, was taking shape. He had been among the moving spirits behind a professional players' organization, a four-runner of the ATP.

In 1968 he joined World Championship Tennis – who were to run a circuit of tournaments in conflict with the grand prix – as associate director. He became executive director a year later and kept the job until 1981.

Davies had a good relationship with Lamar Hunt, the multi-millionaire oil tycoon who owns WCT. But at the end of 1981, Davies moved to the ATP as marketing director and in January, 1983 he became their executive director, a post he retained until last August. During his last 12 months in that job he was also chairman of the MIPTC.

As a player Davies had an unusual but by no means unique career. It was his subsequent rise to the top as a smart, tough negotiator, businessman and administrator that crowned a one-time commoner as a kind of king.

Davies has been the rounds: as an amateur and then as part of the officially ostracized travelling roadshow that, until 1968, was professional tennis. During the next 19 years he fought for three different parties in the game's political jungle.

Davies has always enjoyed a fight (with or without the gloves on) and still does. I hope he makes his movie about the history of tennis. And I hope he makes another about the hard-up boy from Swansea who first handled a racket at the age of 12 and, for the next 38 years, lived in the fast lane and never stopped looking for a scrap. At the moment he is just taking a breather between rounds.

Hobbs has Shriver struggling

From Barry Wood
Brisbane

Anne Hobbs, from Cheshire, now fitter and more hungry for success than at any time in her career, came within a hair's breadth of causing an upset in the second round of the Jason 2000 women's classic here yesterday. The Briton made Pam Shriver, the second seed, fight all the way before eventually losing 7-6, 7-6.

Miss Hobbs looked in excellent condition. A more positive mental attitude, rather than improved fitness, though, was the predominant reason for her resilience against an opponent she had never before come close to beating.

"I decided that I wasn't playing Pam Shriver, No. 5 in the world," Miss Hobbs said. "I was playing a tennis player.

"Mentally, I was hanging in there right up to the last point and I think it shows that I should be able to do better against the top players in future.

Although Miss Shriver was lethargic at first, failing even to get angry with herself in her customary way, towards the end of the second set she began to put fire into her game and her service and that drew praise from Miss Hobbs. "She was serving to a fantastic length, especially at crucial times, and was forcing me to do more on my returns. But being that close, I obviously could have won so naturally I am disappointed."

Miss Shriver acknowledged that Miss Hobbs had also served well enough to trouble her during most of the match. She was also aware that she needed more time to adjust to playing tennis again after five weeks away from the circuit.

"It's difficult to practice immediately before Christmas for a tournament like this, and I'm really using these two weeks as my training for the Australian Open," Miss Shriver said.

RESULTS: Second round (Australian unless stated): P Shriver (US) bt A Hobbs (GB), 7-6, 7-6; E Pfaff (WG) bt R Bryant, 6-4, 6-1; C Jolissaint (Switz) bt L Field, 5-7, 7-5, 6-4; B Nagelsen (US) bt P Hy (HK), 6-1, 6-1; R Marsikova (Cz) bt A Minter, 6-3, 6-0. Third round: H Kelesi (Can) bt E Burgin (US), 6-3, 6-7, 6-3; E Smylie bt D Balestrat, 6-4, 7-6; R Fairbank (SA) bt M Bollegraf (Neth), 6-4, 6-4.

BASKETBALL: LAST WORKS HARD TO KEEP CHAMPIONSHIPS FROM DESPAIR

Juggling act follows the withdrawals

By Nicholas Harling

The story of the tenth world invitation club championships (WICB) which begin today seems to be more a case of who is not at Crystal Palace than who is. Even the BBC, who have televised the event in the past, will not be there this time, joining in exile the major sponsors, Philips, who withdrew last year.

Four of the clubs who were scheduled to compete have pulled out and a fifth, Maccabi Tel Aviv, winners on six occasions, are not there because they could not be afforded.

Athletes in Action (AIA), Polycell Kingston and HFS Portsmouth withdrew without undue acrimony before Aris Salonika incurred the wrath of the tournament organizer, David Last, over Christmas by forcing him to cancel their invitation. They insisted that they receive money on top of that which had been negotiated for air fares.

Last, as ever, had, if not extra aces up his sleeve, certainly an extra club he could invite in his latest emergency. Though hardly of the appeal of Aris, who have one of the outstanding players on the Continent in Nick Gallis. Vevey did last season become the first Swiss club to reach the last eight of the European Cup Winners' Cup.

Certainly, no one could accuse Last of not working like a Trojan, not only to keep the tournament going in stricken circumstances, but to ensure that it was not seriously devalued by the absentees.

The former chairman of Palace, who have merged with Brunel Uxbridge, Last has benefited from his bulging briefcase of contacts formed during Palace's years in Europe.

No sooner had Kingston pulled out than Drapers Tools Solent Stars were called up to take their place, and though the south coast club are scarcely world-beaters, they do have Deora Marsh, the most exciting American newcomer on the domestic scene.

Portsmouth were immediately replaced by Continentale of São Paolo, albeit the Brazilian club's junior side, and now Vevey have come to Last's rescue.

Thankfully three of the main attractions have survived, including the top seeds, Montelibano, of Brazil. Murray International Metals Livingstone, whose average winning score in Scottish League games is by more than 67 points per game, also return, as does Jim Kelly, the former coach of Solent, now with Leverkusen, the unbeaten West German league leaders.

In Leverkusen's squad is John Johnson, the former England international and a dynamic influence with Crystal Palace, Solent, and Kingston during his time in England.

Since the seedings have changed, the draw bears little resemblance to that made last month. One of the changes involved BCP London, the newly amalgamated club who are coached by Last. Instead of the first-round tie against Porto of Portugal, they now face the winners of Solent's game against the Swedish champions, Solna, in the second round.

Further good news for connoisseurs of basketball talent is that the Solna women's team are back in an attempt to regain the trophy they won two years ago.

DRAW: Men: First round (including second round opponents): Bracknell or Porto (Por) v Leverkusen (WG); Commerciale (Br) or Murray International v Montelibano (Br); Vevey (Switzerland) or Wingate College (US) v MIM (Scot); Solent or Solna (Swe) v BCP London.

HOCKEY

Preparing for an exciting new era

By Sydney Friskin

From the successful running of the 1986 World Cup tournament in London, the game moves in 1987 into an exciting era of new events, substantial sponsorship and increased television coverage, all of which should create an image very different from its aloofness of bygone years.

The chance was seized, through the World Cup, to sell the sport to sponsors and the public and three weeks after the end of the event the Hockey Association happily announced a sponsorship deal with Lada Cars worth £420,000 over the next three years. The sponsors have since then guaranteed an additional sum of £60,000 to be raised from associated companies.

The door for further expansion is open, as indicated by Stephen Baines, the association's chief executive, who said: "We are now talking to a number of potential sponsors for a national outdoor league, the traditional events such as the Hockey Association Cup and the county championship; also for youth hockey which will cover a large spectrum."

The Lada Cars sponsorship programme will be launched with an invitation inter-city indoor tournament, in which a number of World Cup players will take part, at Crystal Palace on January 30 and 31. Highlights will be shown on a BBC2 television programme on February 3.

The inter-city tournament will be the forerunner to the Lada Indoor Hockey League, to be played over three weekends at different centres, and these matches will also be televised.

Through television outdoor hockey should make a further impact. The BBC are discussing with The Netherlands and the Soviet Union respectively the terms for picking up coverage of the Champions Trophy Tournament to be played in Amsterdam from June 18 and the European Championship in Moscow starting on August 20. These will be the starting points of a televised programme of events leading up to the 1988 Olympic Games.

In Amsterdam there will be eight of the 12 teams who took part in the 1986 World Cup except that it will be Great Britain and not England in contention. The Champions Trophy is a qualifying tournament for the 1988 Olympic Games and so far only South Korea, the host country, and Pakistan and West Germany, the winners and runners-up in Los Angeles, are guaranteed their places.

Britain will need to finish high up in the round-robin series against Australia, West Germany, the Soviet Union, Argentina, Spain, The Netherlands and Pakistan, who despite their eleventh place in the World Cup, have been invited to Amsterdam because they are Olympic champions.

The international scene moves back to Willesden on October 10 and 11 for the Lada International Hockey Classic, another televised event which could feature some of the best teams preparing for the Olympic Games.

On the domestic front, 1987 still has much to offer. A total of 128 clubs will go into action on February 1 in the first round of the national championship for the Hockey Association Cup. The climax will be reached at Willesden on April 11 and 12 when the semi-finals and the final will be played.

Faster and better hockey will be the objective as the drive continues for more artificial turf pitches. Old Loughtonians became the first club in England to have an artificial turf pitch of their own at Chigwell and, in the next few months, Canterbury will be the second.

About 20 clubs throughout the country, Southgate among them, are jumping on the bandwagon and have applied to sports councils for financial aid in setting up their own artificial surfaces.

These clubs have taken the advice of Phil Appleyard, the president of the Hockey Association and chairman of the World Cup organizing board, who has given the game a fresh approach. As Baines himself said: "If we can have a new national outdoor league in addition to a national indoor league all in one year it should make a lot of difference".

Large sections of the public at the World Cup proclaimed hockey as the game of the future but ultimately such a promise relies largely on continued public interest and crowd support. The test will come in 1987.

North top territory

By Joyce Whitehead

North emerged top at the end of the territorial tournament at Sherborne yesterday but only by virtue of West's victory over South in the last game. North met their match in the morning when they lost 2-1 to East, whose defence upset North's rhythm. They never regained it and this nearly cost them the place they richly deserved.

South, after two wins against East and Midlands, went down to North on Tuesday, which left the position of top territory open. South needed only a score draw against West yesterday afternoon to put them ahead.

As it was, West took the lead with a goal by Sarah Pearson in the first half and continued to threaten the South goal, leaving little time for South to change defence into penetrating attack.

East, who played twice on the first day and never made their mark, came to in the last matches. Against North accuracy was essential and after being one down in the first half they tightened their marking, drove forward and won 2-1.

Both their goals were by Katrine Edwards and Jane Newton from penalty corners. If they had not been such slow starters they could have been contenders for top place.

Midlands, with only three points (a score draw with North and a goalless draw with West), take the wooden spoon and have only themselves to blame. Individually, they were as good as their opponents but overall they lacked imagination.

RESULTS: Midlands 0, West 0; East 2, North 1; West 1, South 0.
FINAL POSITIONS: 1, North, 2, West, 3, East, 4, South, 5, Midlands.

RACING

...e should scale the ...eights again with ...talented juvenile pair

By Mandarin

Martin Pipe is in the enviable position of training two of the most exciting juvenile hurdlers seen out this season in **High Knowl** and **Mareth Line**, and both should win their respective races this afternoon.

High Knowl probably faces the stiffer task in the Steel Plate Trial Hurdle at Cheltenham but if he reproduces the breathtaking display of front-running which won him the Finale Hurdle at Chepstow last month he should extend his unbeaten run to four.

Dunston was well behind at Chepstow and it is difficult to see him beating High Knowl here. A greater danger may be Celtic Chief, who is unbeaten in two runs. His hurdling is none too fluent yet, though, and he may be forced into errors trying to keep in touch with High Knowl.

Mareth Line tackles the Wigston Hurdle at Leicester and, despite top weight, should record his third consecutive success. He too made almost all the running to win a valuable race at Lingfield last month, his second win in four days, and can beat Grey Salute, who escapes a penalty for his win at Warwick.

Returning to a rather depleted Cheltenham programme, **Panto Prince** is napped in the Ernest Jones Diamond Handicap Hurdle. He was a comfortable winner from Wide Boy in a handicap at Chepstow in November but it is his subsequent run, when fifth to Floyd in the Bula Hurdle here last month, which gives him an outstanding chance.

Despite taking on hurdlers not far removed from top class on highly unfavourable terms, he was in contention until fading from the second last hurdle. He looks reasonably treated in this much lower grade and, on a line through Floyd, holds the top weight, Jimsintime.

The northern raider, Charlotte's Dunce, has yet to recapture his best form and Timely Star, who will prefer this trip to the 2½ miles over which he was third to Abu Kadra at Doncaster last time, looks a greater danger.

Burannpour can take full advantage of the 15lb he receives from the penalized Karenomore in the Ernest Jones Jewellers Handicap Chase.

He was a winner at this meeting last season, when trained by Alan Jarvis, and ran another good race to finish fifth to Cross Master in the Sun Alliance Chase. He is sure to improve for his first run for his new stable when a staying-on third to Malya Mal at Hereford last month.

Peter Scudamore, who rides Mareth Line, has a number of other excellent opportunities at Leicester. **Random Charge** should be better suited by the minimum trip in division one of the Humberstone Novices' Hurdle than the two miles five furlongs over which he was unplaced at Towcester last time.

Scudamore can also take the second divison on **Montgomery** for his retaining stable of Fred Winter. Montgomery showed promise in National Hunt flat races last season and, although a beaten favourite on his first run over hurdles, will have learned from the experience.

The champion jockey also has sound prospects on Bajan Sunshine in the Ford Novices' Chase but he observed in *The Times* yesterday that Bajan Sunshine is more of a spring horse. With that in mind, I prefer the sometimes moody but undoubtedly talented **Vivaque**.

He put up a fine performance to be second to Arctic Stream at Ascot last season and, if he is anywhere near that form, can win here.

There is a fascinating contest for the day's most valuable race, the New Year's Day Hurdle at Windsor. Aonoch was a remarkable winner of the competitive Mecca Bookmakers Handicap Hurdle at Sandown in November under top weight, producing an astonishing late run just as his chance seemed to have evaporated.

However, he was disappointing at Cheltenham next time and I prefer **River Ceiriog**, currently third favourite for the Champion Hurdle. He was a wide-margin winner of the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices' Hurdle at last season's Festival meeting and subsequently took the Scottish Champion Hurdle.

All the better for his much-needed first run of the season when third to Barnbrook Again at Newbury, he can demonstrate once again that he is a potentially top-class hurdler and a worthy rival to his stable companion, the dual champion hurdler, See You Then.

Bright Morning can gain his fourth course and distance win in the Ecchinswell Handicap Chase.

At Catterick Bridge, **Jody's Boy** has an outstanding chance to add to his decisive course and distance success in November. He has since run creditably in much better company and does not look harshly handicapped in the Dick Whittington Handicap Hurdle.

High Knowl, seen here winning at Haydock Park last month, attempts to extend his unbeaten run to four in the Steel Plate Trial Hurdle at Cheltenham today (1.55)

Special Vintage heads for Newbury hurdle

Jimmy Fitzgerald, the season's leading trainer, sends his promising novice, Special Vintage, to Newbury tomorrow to contest the grade two Challow Hurdle.

The Nebbiolo gelding will be taking a considerable step up in class after winning both his races over hurdles, at Southwell and Catterick, by 10 lengths.

A good stayer on the Flat, Special Vintage should have few problems seeing out the extended 2½ miles of this £7,000 contest. Mark Dwyer rides.

Fitzgerald said yesterday that the stable's leading chaser, Forgive'N Forget, had come out of his Kempton race well and confirmed that his next race would be the Vincent O'Brien Gold Cup at Leopardstown next month.

Another northern raider at Newbury this weekend will be City Entertainer, an impressive winner at Haydock on his only start this season.

His objective is the Philip Cornes Novices' Hurdle qualifier on Saturday when he will be Charlotte Postlethwaite's first runner at the Berkshire course.

Comedy Fair, who returned to winning form at Market Rasen on Boxing Day, is also likely to head south for the L'Oreal Handicap Hurdle but Peter Easterby's seven-year-old has an alternative engagement at Ayr tomorrow.

Randolph Place, held in high regard at Greystoke, where he is trained by Gordon Richards, will have his second outing over hurdles at the Scottish track either tomorrow or Saturday.

He is engaged over 2½ miles tomorrow and two miles on Saturday but the state of the ground rather than the distance of the race may determine which event he contests.

● Ron O'Leary, the former northern jump jockey, has been granted a licence to train near Malton and hopes to have his first runner at Market Rasen next week.

Berry ties for title with last-ride win

By Our Irish Racing Correspondent

Frank Berry, with his very last mount of the year, forced a tie with Tom Morgan for the 1986 Irish National Hunt jockeys' championship at Punchestown yesterday.

Berry had three chances to level matters but after the defeats of Autumn Tide and Kiora, it looked as if Morgan had resisted the challenge. However, Berry was fortunate that his final ride should be Lucisis, a Punchestown course specialist with an abundance of stamina, and the combination comfortably carried off the 3¼-mile Coolmoonan Handicap Chase.

At Fairyhouse this afternoon, Herbert United could become the first big-race winner of the New Year with Des McDonogh aiming him at the GV Malcomson Memorial Chase, a grade three contest.

Herbert United, one of the best hurdlers in the country, was awarded the Wessel Cable Champion Hurdle last year on the disqualification of Kesslin.

He has now switched to chasing and was taking on the very best novices when finishing sixth to Barrow Line at Leopardstown in his first race over fences.

He performed a good deal better than his final placing would indicate and should have too much speed now for the more experienced First Noel.

John Fowler gave the Christmas programmes a miss to reserve his brilliant bumpers horse, Carricero, for this meeting. His target is the First Crack Hurdle.

Last year Carricero won three times on the flat and was particularly impressive when defeating Tonycharlie by four lengths in the £IR10,000 Mercedes Benz race at the Phoenix Park in May.

Tonycharlie demonstrated the value of this form when winning over hurdles with great ease at Leopardstown and Carricero, who carries the colours of the Marquesa de Moratalla, looks potential Cheltenham material.

He will be tested, though, by the Dermot Weld-trained Perris Valley, who has been in the frame in his three starts over jumps including a third to L'Ane Rouge on Boxing Day.

CHELTENHAM

Selections

By Mandarin

12.45 **PANTO PRINCE** (nap).
1.20 Burannpour.
1.55 High Knowl.
2.30 Cottage Run.
3.05 King Jo.
3.40 Monrita.

By Michael Seely

1.20 Karenomore. 3.05 **KING JO** (nap). 3.40 Brightner.

Going: soft

12.45 ERNEST JONES DIAMOND HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,097: 2m) (8 runners) BBC 2

102	0110-14	JIMSINTIME (D) (M Davies) R Brazington 6-11-0	R Beggan	92	3-1
103	U22-013	TIMELY STAR (D) (B Smith) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-9	M Pitman	90	7-2
109	00-3010	PANTO PRINCE (D) (Mrs L Warren) L Kennard 6-11-3	B Powell	● 99	F6-4
110	03-0040	CHARLOTTE'S DUNCE (D) (Mrs W Tulloch) S Mellor 5-11-1	L Wyer	93	14-1
112	300-440	MENINGI (D) (H Perry) N Mitchell 6-10-12	Mr T Mitchell (7)	98	16-1
114	4014/02	LUCIETES (D,B) (S Hollingworth) F Jordan 6-10-5	C Smith	94	16-1
116	020-004	JADE AND DIAMOND (D) (R Lavelle) G Balding 9-10-3	G Bradley	92	5-1
117	202-030	BOLD ILLUSION (BF) (H Thursfield) M Eckley 9-10-1	B Dowling (7)	97	8-1

1986: TOM SHARP 6-10-7 P Tuck (4-1) W Wharton 9 ran

FORM JIMSINTIME (10-4) 4th, hampered and slipped after second and ran on close home, beaten 35l to Floyd (11-1) at Ascot (2m, £6700, good, Nov 15, good, 8 ran). TIMELY STAR (11-7) 3rd no chance with the easy winner Abu Kadra (10-3), beaten 9l at Doncaster (2m 4f, £4285, Dec 13, good, 15 ran). PANTO PRINCE (11-2) 5th beaten 12½l to Floyd (11-2) at Cheltenham (2m, £9932, good, Dec 6, 8 ran). JADE AND DIAMOND (11-2) 4th beaten 6½l to Master Cone (10-4) at Chepstow (2m 4f, £1315, soft, Dec 20, 22 ran). BOLD ILLUSION (10-0) 5th, lost touch two out, beaten 4l, nk to Fuego Boy (10-7) at Warwick (2m, £2582, good to soft, Dec 29, 15 ran).
Selection: PANTO PRINCE

1.20 ERNEST JONES JEWELLERS HANDICAP CHASE (£4,448: 2m 4f) (4 runners) BBC 2

202	02U-311	KARENOMORE (Lt Col R Warden) M H Easterby 9-11-12 (5ex)	L Wyer	90	F5-4
205	12300-3	BURANNPOUR (C) (Mrs R Weinstein) G Balding 7-10-11	G Bradley	● 99	9-4
206	34-0402	THE COUNTY STONE (V,D,BF) (Mrs A Taylor) Miss J Thorne 10-10-10	K Mooney	97	5-2
207	PP-403U	WALNUT WONDER (R Hickman) R Hickman 12-10-0	P McDermott (7)	89	10-1

1986: RYEMAN 9-10-4 J J O'Neill (2-1) M H Easterby 6 ran

FORM KARENOMORE (11-2) was presented with the race when Badsworth Boy fell at the last, beaten Sir Badsworth (10-3) by 10l at Wetherby (2m, £2351, good, Dec 6, 4 ran). Earlier KARENOMORE (10-11) won by ½l from Badsworth Boy (12-7) at Market Rasen (2m, £1525, good to soft, Nov 22, 3 ran). BURANNPOUR (11-5) 3rd on seasonal debut can improve, beaten 15l to Malya Mal (11-5) at Hereford (2m 4f, £1654, heavy, Dec 18, 7 ran). THE COUNTY STONE (10-10) 2nd beaten 4l to Mister Donut (9-7) at Wincanton (2m 5f, £2124, good to soft, Dec 26, 5 ran). WALNUT WONDER latest lost rider 2 out when beaten behind Fjording, earlier (11-1) 3rd beaten 22½l to Latin Americain (10-6) at Cheltenham (2m, £2918, good, Dec 5, 6 ran)
Selection: KARENOMORE

1.55 STEEL PLATE TRIAL HURDLE (4-Y-O: £4,051: 2m) (7 runners) BBC 2

301	2131	GHOFAR (CD) (H Dundas) D Elsworth 11-7	C Brown	83	7-2
302	111	HIGH KNOWL (D) (Anchorage Swansea Marina) M Pipe 11-7	J Lower	98	F4-5
307	11	CELTIC CHIEF (D) (Mrs L Sewell) Mrs M Rimell 11-0	S Morshead	● 99	3-1
308	20	DUNSTON (T Ramsden) A Bailey 11-0	G Bradley	85	12-1
309		FINAL SELECTION (N Cabburn) D Thom 11-0	M Brennan	—	20-1
311		JIMBALOU (M Davies) R Brazington 11-0	R Beggan	—	33-1
313	340	KING'S CRUSADE (H Mould) D Nicholson 11-0	R Dunwoody	75	16-1

1986: TANGOGNAT 11-0 P Scudamore (3-1) R Simpson 11 ran

FORM GHOFAR (11-3) won well 1½l from Pat's Jester (11-0) at Cheltenham (2m, £4265, good, Dec 6, 9 ran). HIGH KNOWL (11-0) won like a top class performer by 15l from Ricmar (11-0) with DUNSTON (11-0) 5th beaten 42l at Chepstow (2m, £5747, soft, Dec 20, 9 ran). CELTIC CHIEF (11-3) has won both his two starts well, latest (11-3) won 6l from Fingest (10-10) at Warwick (2m, £685, good to soft, Dec 12, 18 ran).
Selection: HIGH KNOWL

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 0-0432 TIMESFORM (CD,BF) (Mrs J Ryley) B Hall 9-10-0 .... B West (4) 88 7-2

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F-fell. P-pulled up. U-unseated rider. B-brought down. S-slipped up. R-refused). Horse's name (B-blinkers. V-visor. H-hood. E-Eyeshield. C-course winner. D-distance winner. CD-course and distance winner. BF-beaten favourite in latest race). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating. Approximate starting price.

2.30 ANDY STOVOLD BENEFIT YEAR NOVICE CHASE (£3,642: 2m) (2 runners) BBC 2

403	0P2-F11	COTTAGE RUN (Mrs M Rogers) D Nicholson 7-11-4	R Dunwoody	● 99	F2-7
408	P-01044	CANTABILE (D) (Lady S Brooke) Lady S Brooke 8-10-9	—	81	2-1

1986: BURANNPOUR 6-11-3 T Jarvis (7-1) A Jarvis 8 ran

FORM COTTAGE RUN (11-11) made all to win 1½l from Rhoecus (11-4) at Warwick (2m, £1880, good to firm, Dec 12, 19 ran). CANTABILE (10-3) 4th beaten 23l to Mister Feathers (10-6) at Wolverhampton (2m, £4145, good, Dec 26, 14 ran).
Selection: COTTAGE RUN

3.5 GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£2,996: 3m 1f) (5 runners)

504	0001433	LEAN AR AGHAIDH (C) (Mrs W Tulloch) S Mellor 10-11-7	G Landau	94	F2-1
505	41-3212	KING JO (D Timothy Ltd) Mrs M Rimell 7-11-1	M Muggeridge	● 99	5-2
507	2F0-110	CELTIC SLAVE (B Hellyer) T Forster 10-10-13	L Harvey	97	9-4
510	4-232U3	RIG STEEL (R Robbins) P Cundell 7-10-0	J Lower	87	8-1
511	0001222	LAURENSUN (D) (Mrs C Black) Mrs C Black 12-10-0	A Murphy	87	10-1

1986: BROOMY BANK 11-11-10 E Murphy (4-1) J Edwards 8 ran

FORM KING JO (11-7) 2nd beaten 3l by Strath Leader (11-8) at Wolverhampton (3m 1f, £1679, good, Dec 26, 5 ran). LEAN AR AGHAIDH (10-0) 3rd, never a factor, beaten 6½l to Burnt Oak (10-2) at Doncaster (3m 2f, £5208, good, Dec 13, 5 ran). CELTIC SLAVE (11-0) 6th beaten 22l to Knock Hill (11-7) at Worcester (3m 5f, £3038, good to soft, Dec 3, 8 ran). RIG STEEL (10-10) 3rd beaten 6½l to Rhymer's Tower (9-10) at Huntingdon (3m, £1421, soft, Dec 26). LAURENSUN (10-5) 2nd caught close home, beaten 1l to Bundle Boy (11-11) at Ludlow (3m, £1486, good, Nov 26, 10 ran).
Selection: KING JO

3.40 GLOUCESTERSHIRE GYPSIES NOVICE HURDLE (£2,579: 2m 4f) (18 runners)

603	4-00141	BRONZE EFFIGY (Mrs R Henriques) M Henriques 5-11-8	B Dowling (7)	80	14-1
605	130F	LODDON LAD (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 5-11-8	R Dunwoody	91	10-1
608	2233-21	SAINT ACTON (B) (Mrs E Weinstein) G Balding 6-11-4	G Bradley	98	F3-1
610	0F2	BRIGHTNER (D Horswell) K Bailey 6-11-0	B Powell	97	4-1
613	30F	GAY GUNNER (Mrs D Stamp) G Gracey 6-11-0	R Beggan	—	16-1
618	30	MAMORA BAY (Mrs E Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-0	M Pitman	87	6-1
621	00	MONRITA (BF) (Mrs M Curtis) Mrs M Rimell 5-11-0	S Morshead	91	8-1
624		STEEPLE VIEW (Mrs C Heath) O Sherwood 6-11-0	C Cox	—	14-1
625	0	SUFFOLK DOWNS (P Barber) Miss J Thorne 5-11-0	K Mooney	91	12-1
627		TENNFORES (Mrs E Vestey) N Henderson 6-11-0	Mr R White (7)	—	14-1
628	4-	THE DUB (J Johnson) N Henderson 6-11-0	M Bowlby (4)	—	6-1
631	20-3220	VITAL BOY (D Russe) R Holder 6-11-0	N Coleman	● 99	9-2
632	030	CHANNEL BREEZE (W Kavanagh) E Wheeler 7-10-9	G Landau	91	12-1
634	P	LA CHEMIE (R Scorgie) N Mitchell 9-10-9	—	—	20-1
636	00-0004	MISS CHRISTOPHER (G Davis) R Holder 5-10-9	P Murphy	74	14-1
637	0/0P-00P	ROMFUL AIR (C Mitchell) C Mitchell 7-10-9	Mr T Mitchell (7)	—	20-1
638	0PP000	SCALE MODEL (J Roper) J Roper 5-10-9	Sharon Oliver	84	25-1
639	0-0	SENLAC (R Hawker) R Hawker 5-10-9	E Waite	—	20-1

1986: (Div I) TEN PLUS 6-11-8 K Mooney (2-5 fav) F Walwyn 13 ran
(Div II) PIKE'S PEAK 5-11-12 S Smith Eccles (8-11 fav) N Henderson 19 ran

FORM BRONZE EFFIGY (10-8) won nk from Espero (11-4) at Towcester (2m 5f, £685, good to soft, Dec 13, 18 ran). LODDON LAD latest slipped up, earlier (11-7) 5th beaten 11½l to Molojec (11-0) at Newbury (2m, £1940, soft, Nov 22, 12 ran). SAINT ACTON (11-4) got up close home to win ½l from Light The Lot (11-10) at Folkestone (2m 6f, heavy, Dec 16, 15 ran). BRIGHTNER (10-10) 2nd beaten 6l to Big Togger (10-10) at Doncaster (3m, £856, good, Dec 12, 19 ran). MAMORA BAY (11-0) 8th beaten over 46l to Sunbeam Talbot (10-7) at Cheltenham (2m 4f, £2131, good, Dec 5, 10 ran). MONRITA (10-10) 8th, never a threat, beaten over 26l to Intuition (10-3) with VITAL BOY (10-10) 2nd beaten 2l at Warwick (2m, £812, good to soft, Nov 27, 18 ran). SUFFOLK DOWNS (11-0) 4th, made some late headway, beaten 8l to Compton Park (11-0) at Cheltenham (2m 4f, £2155, good, Dec 5, 17 ran). THE DUB (11-6) 4th beaten 7½l to The Cherry Man (10-10) at Ascot in National Hunt Flat race (2m, £1781, good, Apr 12, 28 ran). CHANNEL BREEZE (10-13) 5th beaten 20½l to Developer's Run (11-4) at Towcester (2m 5f, £885, good to soft, Dec 13, 16 ran). MISS CHRISTOPHER (9-7) 4th: beaten 13l to Merry Tom (9-13) at Hereford (2m 4f, £747, good to soft, Dec 2, 20 ran).
Selection: SUFFOLK DOWNS

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per Cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per Cent
S Mellor	12	62	19.4	G Bradley	9	65	13.8
D Elsworth	16	98	16.3	K Mooney	8	69	11.6
M H Easterby	9	69	13.0	R Dunwoody	10	93	10.8
L Kennard	10	84	11.9	C Smith	5	47	10.6
R Holder	5	44	11.4	C Brown	11	107	10.3
Mrs M Rimell	19	175	10.9	B Powell	6	66	9.1

CATTERICK BRIDGE

Selections

By Mandarin

12.45 Mr Chris.
1.15 Really Honest.
1.45 Moonlighting.
2.15 Tresidder.
2.45 Tawny Spirit.
3.15 Jody's Boy.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 12.45 MR CHRIS

Going: good

12.45 SCOTCH CORNER HANDICAP CHASE (£1,648: 3m 300yd) (9 runners)

4	10-F3F0	BEAU N'IDOL (E H Robson) E H Robson 8-11-7	R Earnshaw	75	8-1
5	1-PPP4P	KING OF TYRE (W Sellers) J Parkes 10-11-4	J J Quinn	67	—
7	020020	PURPLE BEAM (T Barnes) T Barnes 8-11-2	J K Kinane	80	11-2
8	04124U	CORKER (BF) (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 11-11-1	R Lamb	79	3-1
9	03P030	STRICTLY BACON (P McGlasson) A D Brown 8-10-13	D Dutton	70	—
10	0P/130-P	BARNABY SAM (J Hobson) R Hollinshead 8-10-11	M Dwyer	71	10-1
11	44-31F2	MR CHRIS (CDL 44 Foods Ltd) M Naughton 8-10-11	C Grant	● 99	F6-4
12	P2PC0/U	MISS WOOD (R Robinson) R Robinson 12-10-9	D Condell	—	—
13	0-00020	ANOTHER FLAME (Mrs O Rennison) W Storey 10-10-4	—	80	6-1

1985: Meeting abandoned - frost

1.15 MOTHER GOOSE NOVICE HURDLE (£749: 2m) (13 runners)

1	10	GOUVERNO (D) (Mrs J Murrills) J Berry 7-11-10	J Hansen	96	4-1
2	14	BELLA BANUS (D) (R Stephenson) W A Stephenson 5-11-5	R Lamb	98	3-1
5	0003	DARK CYGNET (G Leggott) D Lee 5-11-3	G Harker	—	—
6	P-	DAVID WOOD (J Longstaff) P Robinson 5-11-3	D Condell	—	—
9	000U-00	HINCKLEY LANE (B Padgett) M W Easterby 5-11-3	M Dwyer	85	12-1
10	04000	KELLY'S INN (T Glendinning) D Moffatt 7-11-3	K Teelan	80	—
11		MR BRISKET (Miss J Collins) J Jefferson 5-11-3	M Hill	91	10-1
15	04	REALLY HONEST (BF) (E St George) M W Easterby 5-11-3	P Tuck	● 99	F6-4
16		SOUND DIFFUSION (Ron Thompson) Ron Thompson 5-11-3	R Balfour	89	9-1
17	0000P/	CORALS SECRET (Miss C Caroe) Miss C Caroe 7-10-12	R Crank	—	—
19	0/	GAPAM GIRL (Mrs K Brown) A D Brown 6-10-12	D Dutton	—	—
22		WAVE GOODBYE (J Hickie) H Wharton 4-10-5	S Yoelden (4)	—	—
25	0B	KATIE RHODES (W Tinning) W Storey 4-10-0	Miss F Storey	—	—

1.45 CINDERELLA SELLING HANDICAP CHASE (£643: 2m) (8 runners)

2	200-401	REAY'S SONG (D) (M Naughton) M Naughton 13-11-9 (5ex)	C Grant	96	F7-4
3	02101/	BREFFNI BOY (D) (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 12-11-8	R Lamb	—	8-1
4	4U144F	SLIEVE BRACKEN (B,CD) (W Bethell) P Slockley 11-11-2	M Dwyer	● 99	5-2
5	PP403/	BARRYPHILLIPS DISCO (I Ender) R Whitaker 10-11-1	P Tuck	—	10-1
6	320342	MOONLIGHTING (K Holt) J Parkes 7-10-2	J J Quinn	98	5-2
8	0000-00	PETER AND DUD (Mrs P Rennison) W Storey 8-10-0	—	—	—
10	220004	CLICKHAM LAD (M Morley) N Chamberlain 9-10-0	C Dennis (7)	—	12-1
11	000200	MILITARY CROWN (Mrs J Carr Evans) Mrs J Carr Evans 10-10-0	—	—	—

2.15 MOTHER GOOSE NOVICE HURDLE (£757: 2m) (14 runners)

1	00310	KILLARY BAY (V,CD) (R Gomersall) N Tinkler 5-11-10	N Tinkler	90	10-1
2	000041	THE YOMPER (B,D) (W Sellers) J Parkes 5-11-10	J R Quinn (7)	80	12-1
4	000-10	MOSSBERRY FAIR (CD) (R Dessert) W Haigh 6-11-5	M Pepper	78	14-1
6	P-0	DICK THE VIC (W Raw) W Raw 6-11-3	Mr H Brown (7)	—	—
8	0P	GOOD N SHARP (A Duffield) G Calvert 6-11-3	M Dwyer	—	—
12	020P/04	MUSIC SEASON (K Bridges) J Rowlands 7-11-3	D Wilkinson	76	—
16		RAWTHEY BANK (N Ridell) A Brown 5-11-3	A Stringer	—	—
17	P	REGAL CAPISTRANO (M D M Racing Ltd) Ron Thompson 5-11-3	G Harker	—	—
19	2022	SIR JEST (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 9-11-3	R Lamb	92	8-1
20	4	TOCKALA (J Hepburn) M H Easterby 6-11-3	D Dutton	80	6-1
21	3	TRESIDDER (Hippodromo Racing) M W Easterby 5-11-3	P Tuck	● 99	F6-4
22	0P32	TREYARNON (Lt-Col W Monteith) P Monteith 5-11-3	K Teelan	84	6-1
24	00	YOUR CHOICE (Hill's Supplies Ltd) M Chapman 6-11-3	S Mitchell (7)	—	—
27	004	FARAWAY LAD (B) (Lady Salt) D Ringer 4-10-5	J Barlow	90	5-1

2.45 ROBINSON CRUSOE NOVICE CHASE (£1,060: 2m) (8 runners)

1	012212	SHARP SONG (J Latham) T Fairhurst 6-11-9	C Fairhurst	87	9-2
2	P/430-0P	ALLTEN GLAZED (Mrs W Widdall) M Naughton 10-11-2	C Grant	● 99	F6-4
6	000/F-FF	MASTER VULGAN (A Duffield) G Calvert 8-11-2	M Pepper	—	—
8		POLITON (I Park) Barr 8-11-2	Mr S Swiers (7)	—	—
9	0-P0000	PRETTY AMAZING (T Glendinning) D Moffatt 6-11-2	K Teelan	—	—
10	0P-1113	TAWNY SPIRIT (BF) (A Milner) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-11-2	M Dwyer	—	2-1
11	04UU02	WELSH SPIRIT (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 8-11-2	Mr P Johnson (7)	91	8-1
12	0-0P004	WISE CRACKER (Meehan & Cox Bldg Cntrts Ltd) G Richards 6-11-2	P Tuck	94	8-1

3.15 DICK WHITTINGTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,272: 2m) (11 runners)

1	113F/03	SPRITEBRAND (D) (P Sullivan) M H Easterby 7-11-10	D Dutton	97	F7-4
3	100-0	ROMAN DELIGHT (CD) (W Lockey) J Charlton 6-11-2	R Earnshaw	88	12-1
5	0F-2243	GALATCH (B,D) (Mrs H Wells) W Wells 10-10-12	Mr M Welsh (7)	98	5-1
7	402140	JODY'S BOY (CD) (R Swiers) R Swiers 6-10-10	Mr J Osborne (7)	● 99	7-1
8	1400C0-	GODFATHER'S GIFT (Mrs J Osborne) Mrs D Haine 5-10-6	—	96	—
9	2-0C030	GREY CARD (Mrs A Hartas) M W Ellerby 6-10-4	M Pepper	96	10-1
10	0044/0U	OUTLAW (B) (H White) J Edwards 8-10-4	P Barton	98	—
11	0/	MULATA (S Moore) D Moffatt 8-10-2	K Teelan	—	—
12	042103	BLACK RIVER (D) (Mrs D Brewster) M H Easterby 6-10-1	—	95	3-1
13	000/PP0	BANNA'S RETREAT (B,CD) (F Barlow) Mrs S Austin 6-10-0	G Harker	—	—
14	30-B000	DALLAS SMITH (S Elmer) M Chapman 6-10-0	A Mitchell (7)	80	—

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per Cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per Cent
N Tinkler	6	22	27.3	R Earnshaw	13	47	37.7
M H Easterby	17	69	24.6	C Grant	17	110	15.5
M W Easterby	12	60	20.0	M Dwyer	9	58	15.5
G Richards	10	69	14.5	R Lamb	9	89	10.1
M Naughton	6	45	13.3	D Dutton	5	56	8.9
Jimmy Fitzgerald	8	62	12.9	P Tuck	6	70	8.6

WINDSOR

Selections

By Mandarin

1.00 Black Spout. 1.30 Bright Morning. 2.00 River Ceiriog. 2.30 Choice Of Critics. 3.00 Andrea Dawn. 3.30 Wide Boy.

Going: good

1.0 BRAY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,083: 2m 30yd) (9 runners)

2	-020	TANA MIST R Voorspuy 5-11-7	M Furlong
3	3200	DEBBIES PRINCE C Bravery 6-11-5	H Davies
4	3022	THAMES TRADER (BF) P Haynes 6-11-5	R Rowe
6	0200	BOSWORTH BAY D Marks 5-11-4	—
8	-000	BLACK SPOUT H O'Neill 6-10-12	R Chapman (4)
11	-P00	SHERWOOD FOREST (B) J Sayers 5-10-11	M Perrett
13	032F	SOLENT BREEZE (V) B Stevens 4-10-9	—
14	P0-0	THERESA G Blum 5-10-8	D Hood (7)
20	U-00	TOUCH OF RHYTHM (V) P Butler 6-10-6	—

9-4 Thames Trader, 11-4 Tana Mist, 4-1 Solent Breeze, 6-1 Debbies Prince, 8-1 Bosworth Bay, 12-1 Theresa, 20-1 others

1.30 ECCHINSWELL HANDICAP CHASE (£2,015: 2m 40yd) (8)

1	-2F3	TARN N Gaselee 9-11-10	A Adams (7)
5	1133	FAST FLIGHT J Ffitch-Heyes 12-11-4	Penny Ffitch-Heyes (7)
6	1042	BRIGHT MORNING (CD) D Grissell 9-11-2	J Akehurst
8	/P00	JUST MARTIN (CD) R Champion 9-10-0	R Rowe
9	0224	CRESUN (CD)(BF) Mrs L Clay 8-10-0	J Lovejoy
10	F23/	NEOTERIC J O'Donoghue 8-10-0	R Rowell
11	0F4F	STRETCH OUT A Moore 9-10-0	G Moore
12	-280	FLEDGE R Ledger 10-10-0	Mrs N Ledger

7-4 Tarn, 5-2 Fast Flight, 7-2 Bright Morning, 6-1 Cresun, 8-1 Just Martin, 16-1 others

2.0 NEW YEAR'S DAY HURDLE (£7,115: 2m 30yd) (5)

1	1F10	AONOCH (BF) Mrs S Oliver 8-11-10	Jacqui Oliver
3	21-3	RIVER CEIRIOG N Henderson 6-11-10	S Smith Eccles
5	-143	ROBIN WONDER D Elsworth 9-11-7	—
6	-391	YALE J Gifford 5-11-4	R Rowe
7	0-04	RA NOVA I Matthews 8-11-4	M Perrett

4-5 River Ceiriog, 3-1 Aonoch, 9-2 Robin Wonder, 6-1 Yale, 8-1 Ra Nova.

FORM AONOCH (11-10) 6th, failed to show his best form, beaten 15½l to Floyd (11-2) with ROBIN WONDER (11-2) 3rd, failed to quicken close home, beaten 12l at Cheltenham (2m, £9932, good, Dec 6, 8 ran). Earlier AONOCH (11-7) won well 3l from Ballydurrow (10-13) at Sandown (2m, £12,015, good to soft, nov 29, 17 ran). RIVER CEIRIOG (11-6) 3rd, not given a hard race and should improve, beaten 36l to Bambrook Again (11-0) at Newbury (2m, £6764, soft, Nov 22, 7 ran). Last season RIVER CEIRIOG (10-9) made all to win by 5l from Humberside Lady (11-0) in the Scottish Champion hurdle at Ayr (2m, £5,146,good, Apr 18, 7 ran). ROBIN WONDER (11-4) 4th, failed to quicken close home, beaten hd, 4l to Tom Sharp (11-0) with Ballydurrow (11-0) 2nd beaten hd at Newcastle (2m, £9544, good, Nov 15, 10 ran). YALE (10-0) won 1l from Beat The Retreat (10-8) at Lingfield (2m, £4123, soft, Dec 6, 19 ran). RA NOVA (11-3) 4th beaten 15l to Nohalmdun (11-3) at Kempton (2m, £19128, Dec 27, soft, 7 ran).
Selection: AONOCH

2.30 FREDDIE STARR HANDICAP CHASE (£3,061: 3m 4f) (5)

1	60-4	INSURE (D) F Winter 9-11-7	Mr C Brooks (4)
10	3231	FELL CLIMB P Bailey 7-10-0 (4ex)	R Strange
11	1P-1	CHOICE OF CRITICS R Akehurst 11-10-0(4ex)	S Smith Eccles
13	-030	BROWN VEIL R Armytage 12-10-0	Miss G Armytage (4)
18	F30F	UP AND DOWN J Gifford 12-10-0	R Rowe

15-8 Fell Climb, 5-2 Insure, 100-30 Choice Of Critics, 6-1 Up And Down, 10-1 Brown Veil

3.0 LANGLEY NOVICE CHASE (£1,737: 2m 40yd) (12)

2	0-PP	BIT OF A DANDY J Gifford 6-11-3	R Rowe
3	-024	BRIANOGAN T Forster 7-11-3	H Davies
5	600F	CHAMPIONS DAY P Burgoyne 6-11-3	J Duggan
8	00-0	CROUGHAUN Miss L Bower 6-11-3	R Rowell
10	-4P0	GOLDEN REIGN G Thorner 6-11-3	—
13	PP-3	NORTHWARD P W Harris 7-11-3	R Strange
15	FU	THE BONDERIZER J Honeyball 7-11-3	Peter Hobbs
17	0	VULBEAU D Grissell 7-11-3	R Goldstein
18	-22F	ANDREA DAWN A Turnell 6-10-12	Steve Knight
19	3-FU	GABLES FLIGHT C Willett 7-10-12	—
20	2060	VENETIAN PRINCESS A Moore 5-10-12	G Moore
22	0002	CHARLESTON GEORGE R Shepherd 5-10-7	Mrs C Smallman

9-4 Brianogan, 11-4 Northward, 7-2 Andrea Dawn, 5-1 Charleston George, 10-1 Venetian Princess, 14-1 others

3.30 TOUCHEN END HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,333: 2m 30yd) (12)

1	1130	TACHEO Miss L Bower 6-12-7	R Rowell
2	F324	BRAUNSTON BROOK (CD) D Oughton 9-11-10	P Double
3	04P-	BETTYKNOWES R Akehurst 8-11-8	H Davies
4	-P00	OWEN'S PRIDE R Akehurst 5-11-8	Dale McKeown (7)
6	3442	GOODMAN POINT J Gifford 5-10-12	R Rowe
7	4/0P	OULA OWL K Ivory 7-10-11	M Richards
8	/0-0	ARABIAN SEA R Curtis 8-10-5	—
9	2130	FLAMING PEARL (BF) B Stevens 6-10-5	Penny Ffitch-Heyes (7)
11	P-0P	CRIMSON BOLD J Jenkins 5-10-2	M Perrett
15	040-	WATER DRAGON D Mills 7-10-0	R Goldstein
16	P-00	SNOWBALL JIM A Moore 7-10-0	Candy Moore (4)
17	1U2	WIDE BOY I Balding 5-11-4	S Smith Eccles

5-2 Wide Boy, 4-1 Goodman Point, 5-1 Braunston Brook, 13-2 Flaming Pearl, 10-1 Tacheo, Bettyknowes, 12-1 others

Course specialists

TRAINERS: P Haynes, 5 winners from 26 runners, 19.2%; P Bailey, 6 from 32, 18.8%; D Grissell, 5 from 31, 16.1%; N Gaselee, 7 from 46, 15.2%; J Gifford, 9 from 67, 13.4%; T Forster, 10 from 79, 12.7%.

JOCKEYS: Steve Knight, 6 winners from 29, 20.7%; P Double, 5 from 25, 20.0%; H Davies, 17 from 110, 15.5%; S Smith Eccles, 7 from 59, 11.9%; R Rowe, 6 from 57, 10.5%. (Only five qualifiers).

LEICESTER

Selections

By Mandarin

1.00 Random Charge. 1.30 Mareth Line. 2.00 Vivaque. 2.30 Prince Moon. 3.00 Montgomery. 3.30 Bardsey.

Going: soft (chase course); heavy (hurdles)

1.0 HUMBERSTONE NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £717: 2m) (8 runners)

3	F	BROXTED SPAR Mrs J Pitman 6-11-3	B de Haan
7	2-00	HIGH TRUST G Kindersley 7-11-3	D Browne
8	3342	HILL BEAGLE J P Smith 7-11-3	S J O'Neill
11	240	RANDOM CHARGE J Jenkins 6-11-3	P Scudamore
14		TORRINGTON WARRIOR D Todd 7-11-3	A J Quinn (7)
21	60	GARTHMAN P Felgate 4-10-5	S Johnson
24		PROUD SOLDIER M Scudamore 4-10-5	—
25	00	MONSTROSA J Spearing 4-10-0	P Warner

5-2 Broxted Spar, 3-1 Random Charge, 4-1 Hill Beagle, 6-1 High Trust, 10-1 Garthman, 12-1 Monstrosa, 16-1 others.

1.30 WIGSTON HURDLE (4-Y-O: £4,019: 2m) (9)

1	211	MARETH LINE (D) M Pipe 11-10	P Scudamore
3	11	NIPPY CHIPPY N Callaghan 11-6	D Murphy
4	1344	TURN'EM BACK JACK (B,D) A Bailey 11-0	A Carroll
5	1	GREY SALUTE (D) J Jenkins 11-0	E Murphy
8	0	PENTLAND HAWK R Hollinshead 11-0	P Dever
9	4	PLAID (BF) P Walwyn 11-0	D Browne
10	04F0	QUALITAIR KING K Stone 11-0	—
11	F	ROLAMPAGO W Wharton 11-0	S J O'Neill
14	80F	KASU J L Harris 10-9	J A Harris

7-4 Mareth Line, 7-2 Grey Salute, 4-1 Nippy Chippy, 8-1 Plaid, 12-1 Qualitair King, Turn'em Back Jack, 16-1 others.

2.0 FORD NOVICE CHASE (£2,735: 3m) (6)

2	-211	ROYAL GAMBIT (D) J Gifford 7-11-9	E Murphy
6	0-23	BAJAN SUNSHINE F Winter 8-11-0	P Scudamore
7	0030	FADING DAWN P Butler 10-11-0	Mr P Townsley (7)
15	F	PREMON'S LAST J Old 11-11-0	—
21	20-3	VIVAQUE Mrs J Pitman 8-11-0	B de Haan
25	F-3	KELLY'S MAID J Webber 7-10-9	G Mernagh

2-1 Royal Gambit, 9-4 Vivaque, 5-2 Bajan Sunshine, 6-1 Kelly's Maid, 25-1 Premon's Last, Fading Dawn.

2.30 NEW YEAR NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (£1,493: 2m) (5)

2	-040	JOHN FEATHER (B) D Burchell 8-11-7	—
4	3P1F	PRINCE MOON (BF) G Balding 7-11-3	P Dever
5	0/P0	WALLY WOMBAT M Scudamore 9-10-13	P Scudamore
8	-FF2	GERAMI J Edwards 7-10-8	W Knox (4)
10	0-0P	ROCABAY BLUE R Champion 6-10-5	R Hendricks

11-10 Prince Moon, 4-1 John Feather, 9-2 Gerami, 5-1 Wally Wombat, 10-1 Rocabay Blue.

3.0 HUMBERSTONE NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £740: 2m) (6)

1	2340	SAND CASTLE (B,D) S Mellor 6-11-9	—
7	0	MONTGOMERY (BF) F Winter 6-11-3	P Scudamore
10	0F	OH SO STANLEY G F Lee 6-11-3	Mr R Morris
19	-433	THE LODGE PRINCE (V) K Stone 5-11-3	—
25		RAZZAMATAZ GLORY M Hinchliffe 5-10-12	—
28	0	MY ANNADETSKY J L Harris 4-10-0	S Harris (7)

11-10 The Lodge Prince, 5-2 Montgomery, 11-4 Sand Castle, 20-1 Razzamataz Glory, 25-1 others.

3.30 GLEBE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,127: 3m) (15)

2	0F00	SHANGOSEER J Jenkins 5-11-9	Mr D [illegible] (7)
6	2-02	UNICOL (BF) S Mellor 5-10-12	—
9	P/00	MAUJENDOR (D) M Tate 7-10-11	—
12	P-04	KNIGHT'S HEIR H Whiting 5-10-8	P Scudamore
16	3100	BARDSEY R Hollinshead 6-10-3	P Dever
18	0-02	TOO OFTEN K Bridgwater 8-10-2	W Worthington (7)
20	2400	MISS MALINOWSKI J Cosgrave 7-10-1	J Suthern
21	P2P0	OUR BARA BOY R Curtis 10-10-1	—
22	-44P	BRYMA B Palling 7-10-0	D Tegg (7)
23	P-P0	PREACHER'S GEM K Bailey 8-10-0	B de Haan
25	000P	LAST TRAIL M Wilesmith 8-10-0	J Bryan
29	30/0	PRINCE OF KASHMIR J Sayers 7-10-0	E Murphy
30	0/0-	POLAR ICE J L Harris 11-10-0	J A Harris
31	-P00	FLYING REPORT J Old 7-10-0	—
33	00-0	TURN MILL Mrs S Davenport 6-10-0	P Warner

7-2 Unicol, 9-2 Too Often, 5-1 Shangoseer, 11-2 Preacher's Gem, 8-1 Bardsey, Knights Heir, 10-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: F Winter, 11 winners from 32 runners, 34.4%; Mrs J Pitman, 15 from 59, 25.4%; J Edwards, 5 from 24, 20.8%; S Mellor, 5 from 26, 19.2%; J Jenkins, 7 from 37, 18.9%; J Old, 7 from 42, 16.7%.

JOCKEYS: B de Haan, 5 winners from 30 rides, 16.7%; P Scudamore, 10 from 86, 11.6%. (Only two qualifiers).

DEVON & EXETER

Selections

By Mandarin

1.00 Mystery Clock. 1.30 Ryans Dove. 2.00 Deviner. 2.30 Chatterspark. 3.00 Vodkatini. 3.30 Flying Officer.

Going: soft

1.0 LONGDOWN NOVICE HURDLE (4-Y-O: £671: 2m 1f) (14 runners)

1	00	ARABIAN BLUES B Stevens 10-10	—
2	0FP	ARCTIC REEF W Williams 10-10	Mr T Grantham (4)
5		CHINA TEA W Reed 10-10	D Wonnacott (7)
9	P030	HOME OR AWAY J Baker 10-10	S McNeill
13	0303	MYSTERY CLOCK (B) P Bailey 10-10	Mr M Armytage (7)
14	0000	RAVELSTON J Honeyball 10-10	—
15	4FP	RICKESTON LAD B Palling 10-10	C Evans (4)
19		TOM'S LITTLE WILL W Williams 10-10	C Gray
20	0P	TROPICO (B) I Wardle 10-10	K Townsend (7)
21	0	WALCISIN J Baker 10-10	R Atkins
23	04	CUPIDS BOWER (B) A James 10-5	—
25	300	KELLYANN W Fisher 10-5	C Llewellyn (7)
27	P	MY MOYALE N Kernick 10-5	M Yeoman (7)
30	0P	SMITHY'S GIRL N Ayliffe 10-5	R Millman

3-1 Home Or Away, 7-2 Walcisin, Mystery Clock, 5-1 Arabian Blues, 13-2 Kellyann, 8-1 others.

1.30 DEEP WEALTH NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,368: 2m 1f) (18)

3	0-11	PEACEFULL MEMBER (C) L Kennard 6-11-7	S McNeill
4	/0-0	TINAHUE ANGEL G Doidge 8-11-4	P Holley (7)
5	-010	ANAGMOR'S DAUGHTER K Bishop 6-11-3	S Earle (4)
7	13	RYANS DOVE (BF) M Pipe 6-11-2	P Leach
9	-204	BEEN MUGGED D Gandolfo 11-11-2	C Evans (4)
10	-000	FRAUD SQUAD R Hodges 8-11-1	—
11	00-P	RAJA KHAN D R Tucker 6-11-1	R Sparks (7)
12	-001	ROYAL HERO P Bowden 6-10-13 (5ex)	R Dennis
13	-020	FILL THE JUG P Rodford 6-10-11	C Gray
14	2P-0	DIAPHANTINE R Frost 5-10-10	J Frost
15	0040	GLENCOMMON J Baker 6-10-10	R Atkins
16	2240	LIZZY LONGSTOCKING Mrs J Wonnacott 5-10-10	D Wonnacott (7)
17	-020	MR AVENGER (B) G Kindersley 6-10-10	NON-RUNNER
18	30/0	LAUTREC C Popham 9-10-7	—
19	0000	GARA ROCK D Barons 6-10-5	P Nicholls
23	P/00	DUART J Spearing 7-10-2	A Webb
24	0000	BROAD WOOD R Hodges 5-10-10	W Irvine (7)
25	0200	HONEYCROFT R Frost 5-10-0	C Hopwood (7)

11-4 Ryans Dove, 3-1 Peacefull Member, 4-1 Anagmor's Daughter, 6-1 Lizzy Longstocking, 10-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: J Spearing, 6 winners from 23 runners, 26.1%; J Edwards, 7 from 32, 21.9%; L Kennard, 35 from 171, 20.5%; M C Pipe, 40 from, 210, 19.0%; D Barons, 19 from 124, 15.3%; J Old, 12 from 90, 13.3%.

JOCKEYS: A Webb, 7 winners from 38 rides, 18.4%; P Richards, 14 from 79, 17.7%; P Leach, 23 from 135, 17.0%; R Dennis, 8 from 65, 12.3%. (only four qualifiers).

2.0 ELLIOT AND WILSON NOVICE CHASE (£2,774: 3m 1f) (15)

1	-1F3	DEVINER (BF) S Mellor 7-11-13	M Harrington
2	22-P	ANOTHER DRAGON M Pipe 11-11-6	P Leach
6	32/0	DODDY'S SPECIAL H Handel 12-11-6	Miss H Handel
8	-000	FAIR EXAMINER W McKenzie-Coles 9-11-6	Mr B Towers
13	0PF3	HIGH BLEND P Bailey 8-11-6	Mr M Armytage (7)
14	-00P	HUNTWORTH (B) C Popham 7-11-6	—
18	0-F0	MARCH FANDANGO A Congdon 8-11-6	—
21	100/	PELION J King 7-11-6	S McNeill
24	-UFF	RODGER DELL J Edwards 7-11-6	Mr M Richards (7)
25	/P0P	SEVEN ACRES Mrs M Babbage 9-11-6	N Babbage
27	FF-3	THE JOESTAN P Haynes 8-11-6	A Webb
31	-001	WILL'S WARRIOR G Ham 5-11-8	M Richards
35	0-04	LILLE (B) B Forsey 8-11-1	—
38	22F3	STARS AND STRIPES (BF) R Frost 8-11-1	J Frost
39	0P-0	VICEROY LASS Mrs J Barrow 6-11-1	M Bosley (4)

9-4 Deviner, 100-30 Another Dragon, 4-1 Stars And Stripes, 9-2 Will's Warrior, 8-1 Lille, The Joestan, 12-1 others.

2.30 UPTON PYNE NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (£509: 2m 1f) (8)

1	-020	DONNA'S BOY Mrs E Hext 5-11-6	R Millman
2	0PP	ITS A LAUGH M Pipe 5-11-6	R Atkins
4	P0-P	WANTING K Bishop 5-11-6	S Earle (4)
5	0P02	WHOEVER D Barons 5-11-6	P Nicholls
6	00	BUTE BOUQUET R Juckes 5-11-1	Samantha Dunster (7)
7	0001	CHATTERSPARK (D) R Hodges 4-10-8	W Irvine (7)
10	0000	PARKES SPECIAL Mrs J Wonnacott 4-10-3	D Wonnacott (7)
11	330	SOLENT EXPRESS B Stevens 4-10-3	—

9-4 Chatterspark, 3-1 Solent Express, 9-2 Whoever, 5-1 Donna's Boy, 8-1 Bute Bouquet, 12-1 others.

3.0 RAYNER MEMORIAL CHALLENGE TROPHY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,380: 2m 1f) (4)

2	2-4P	FIRE DRILL (CD) K Bishop 12-11-7	P Richards
4	2-03	VODKATINI P Haynes 8-10-1	A Webb
5	0-U0	MEARLIN (CD,BF) J Old 7-10-0	C Llewellyn (7)
8	U00F	INDIAN SIGNAL G Ham 8-10-0	M Richards

11-8 Fire Drill, 6-4 Vodkatini, 7-2 Mearlin, 20-1 Indian Signal.

3.30 THORVERTER CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£924: 2m 1f) (11)

4	-120	HARBOUR BAZAAR (D) R Simpson 7-11-7	D Gallagher (5)
7	13/F	CHARLEMOUNT C Luxton 10-11-3	R Boucher (5)
8	0403	BALTIC SEA D Wintle 6-11-2	P Mills (5)
9	0403	FLYING OFFICER (V,CD) M Pipe 10-11-2	—
10	4P00	GETTING PLENTY (C) F Gorman 7-11-0	Tracy Turner (5)
15	00/0	NORTHERN INTEREST P Hobbs 8-10-8	I Wright (5)
16	0-04	KHATTI HAWK (B) C James 5-10-6	—
20	001P	MORE ONE WAY R Parker 6-10-0	W Humphreys (5)
22	2030	HOUNSTOUT J Roberts 7-10-0	—
23	00-2	CONOR'S ROCK (CD) Mrs M Stark 7-10-0	C Evans
24	0P-0	SMILING LAUREL Mrs B Waring 7-10-0	J Robson (5)

2-1 Flying Officer, 4-1 Getting Plenty, 9-2 Khatti Hawk, 5-1 Harbour Bazaar, 11-2 Conor's Rock, 8-1 others.

Riva Rose touches down just ahead at the last in the Spa Hurdle at Cheltenham yesterday but the blinkered Cats Eyes battled back to snatch victory

Cats Eyes has Irish prize in his sights after game victory

By Michael Seely

Cats Eyes, bought out of a Devon and Exeter seller for only 3,400 guineas two years ago, became a live contender for The Ladbroke, Europe's richest handicap hurdle, at Leopardstown on January 10 with a dogged display of courage in the Spa Hurdle at Cheltenham yesterday.

Martin Pipe, Britain's most prolific trainer last season with 80 winners and already with a highly creditable 44 successes to his credit at the turn of the year, said: "We were very disappointed when Corporal Clinger was just beaten by Derrymore Boy in Ireland on Tuesday. Cats Eyes has now earned the right to try and improve on his second to Bonalma in Ireland last season."

Wearing a distinctive pair of red blinkers, Cats Eyes and Paul Leach set out to make every yard of the running. Racing down the hill to the second hurdle from home, Riva Rose loomed up as the only possible danger.

Mark Pitman rode his mother's five-year-old into a slight lead approaching the final flight but, rallying gamely, Cats Eyes fought his way back to gain victory by threequarters of a length. Pike's Peak, the 2-1 favourite, finished a disappointing 10 lengths away in third place with Sheer Gold fourth.

The Tote jackpot at Cheltenham today will start with £28,903, carried over from yesterday, in the pool. The placepot has a guaranteed pool of £5,000.

After watching the video recording of the race, the stewards decided that both Leach and Pitman had misused their whips and had punished their mounts too severely. Both jockeys were fined £75.

The Ladbroke is certainly building up to be a most competitive affair. Cats Eyes, with 10st 12lb, incurs no penalty for yesterday's victory and has had his odds cut from 20-1 to 14-1 by the sponsors. The Illiad and Derrymore Boy are joint favourites at 5-1, followed by Barnbrook Again, Britain's chief hope for the £IR50,000 prize, a 6-1 chance.

No big race pointers, however, were gained from the Old Year Handicap Chase after George Mernagh had brought Knock Hill home 12 lengths clear of Greenbank Park to win the four-mile contest for the second successive season for himself and John Webber, the Oxfordshire trainer.

Lucky Vane earned his right to run in the Grand National for the third time by running on to finish third with West Tip, last year's winner of the world's most exciting steeplechase, beaten a total of 23 lengths into fourth place. However, he remains favourite at 14-1 with most bookmakers.

Richard Dunwoody was not too disappointed with the performance. "He went well for a long way, blew up and then stayed on again." Michael Oliver, the trainer, said: "The horse does himself too well and seems to be taking a long time to get fit."

Knock Hill appeared to take a dislike to Aintree last April when he was pulled up before the 23rd fence. "He doesn't seem to like drop fences nowadays and he has also disappointed at Haydock," said Webber.

"If he's very well we might be tempted to have another go but in the meantime he's going to try for a repeat win in the Brooke Bond Oxo National at Warwick on January 24." Peter Thompson, Knock Hill's sporting owner from Maryland, added: "And after that I'd dearly like to have a go in the Irish National."

It was a sad sight to see Elmboy, favourite at 9-2 to make a triumphant comeback for Norman Mawle, break down badly before he was pulled up at the second fence from home. Kumbi also appeared to be lame when pulled up at the top of the hill the last time round.

Fred Winter reported nothing to be amiss with Plundering, who was virtually stopping to a walk at the line, after jumping the last fence in fourth place. "He seemed sound but several of my horses, who had the virus last season, have run accountably badly, so we'll have to have some tests taken," Winter said.

The old year was certainly seen out in exhilarating style at the headquarters of jumping as some close finishes kept the crowd enthralled. Steve Smith Eccles, without a victory to his credit since winning on Master Bob on this course on December 5 and who was out of action for 10 days after injuring his ribs in a fall at Leicester on December 16, was seen at his strongest and most effective when forcing Townley Stone past the post a neck in front of Roadster in the Fairford Handicap Chase.

Music Be Magic was only 1½ lengths away third place but Pearlyman, the 2-1 favourite, blundered his chance away with mistakes at each of the last two fences.

The victory represented a fine feat of training by Nicky Henderson who was producing Townley Stone to win at the first time of asking after a 15-month absence from the track. Townley Stone last ran at Enghien in September 1985, when trained by Martin Blackshaw.

"He came to me just over a year ago," said Henderson. "Townley Stone broke a bone in his withers but that wasn't the main trouble as he has always had dodgy knees. So we blistered him and put him away for a few months."

A top class novice hurdler and chaser in his younger days, Townley Stone will now be aimed at the £25,000 Victor Chandler Handicap Chase at Ascot on January 17.

Toby Balding started the afternoon on a high note when Graham Bradley and Kildimo gave the Weyhill trainer his 31st winner of the season by narrowly beating Playschool in the Broadway Novices' Chase.

Kildimo, a half-brother to the Grand National winner, Rubstic, and Playschool, who was conceding 8lb to the winner, both emerged with credit from this exciting race and look sure to prove leading candidates for the Sun Alliance Chase at the National Hunt Festival.

Playschool jumped with tremendous verve and speed after being sent into the lead by Leach six fences from home. But Kildimo was always travelling smoothly and quickened ahead on the flat for a clever win, despite having made a mistake at the final jump.

After an inquiry the stewards decided that the winner had interfered with the runner-up at the last fence but took the view that it was accidental and allowed the result to stand. The first and second are likely to renew rivalry in the Peter Ross Chase at Ascot on January 17.

Liverpool bound: West Tip, the 1986 Grand National winner, runs on to take fourth place in yesterday's Old Year Handicap Chase at Cheltenham. The 10-year-old remains favourite for an Aintree encore on April 4 with leading bookmakers despite being beaten 23 lengths

Fortune favours Manna Reef

Manna Reef, the 14-1 outsider of four runners for the Leicestershire Silver Fox Handicap Chase at Leicester yesterday, was the only horse to complete the course without mishap.

He joined the pacemaking Claude Monet five fences from home, where the 11-8 favourite fell heavily. With the topweight You're Welcome having unseated Richard Rowe earlier he was left clear of Misty Fort, the only other survivor.

Misty Fort made relentless progress to join Manna Reef over the last two fences but he came down at the last and Manna Reef was left to finish alone, although Misty Fort was remounted to finish a distant second.

It was a first success of the season for amateur jockey Mark Richards, and his eighth in all, despite putting up 5lb overweight. Richards is attached to winning trainer John Edwards' Ross-on-Wye stable and one of the rides he can look forward to in coming hunter chases is Fethard Friend, who ran well for a long way in the last Aintree Grand National before being pulled up before the 25th fence.

The owner David Horton was heartbroken when his chaser Clutterbuck, an intended runner for the Silver Fox Chase, had to be put down after a freak accident in Lambourn on Christmas Eve. The nine-year-old was out walking with Fred Winter's string when he was kicked by another horse and had to be put down.

However, Horton had something to smile about after the impressive winning debut of Celtic Shot, out of a half-sister to Clutterbuck, in the Pytchley Novices' Hurdle. Celtic Shot had ten lengths to make up on the leaders going into the final flight but he produced a remarkable burst of speed on the run-in to pass Northern Gambler and even money favourite Smith's Gamble and score by three lengths.

The victory was just reward for jockey Jimmy Duggan and Winter's assistant Charlie Brooks, who walked the course and before racing. Brooks said: "We discovered a near-perfect strip of ground right under the stands rails, and Jimmy kept Celtic Shot on it to produce that devastating finish."

Ivy League looked beaten at the penultimate fence in the Gallowtree Novices' Chase but rallied under pressure from Richard Rowe to beat Reddown by a short head in the final stride.

The stewards inquired into the running and riding of Petit Pain, fourth to Shipwright in the Midland Handicap Hurdle, and recorded the explanations of trainer Jenny Pitman's assistant David Stait and jockey Michael O'Callaghan that it was the gelding's first run for more than 12 months. Petit Pain, who has had leg problems, was unable to produce anything extra in the closing stages.

● Donal Nolan will be out of action for at least three weeks after breaking a collarbone and dislocating a shoulder in a fall on Topleigh at Wetherby last Saturday.

Results from yesterday's two meetings

Cheltenham

Going: soft

12.45 (3m 1f Ch) 1, KILDIMO (G Bradley, 5-2); 2, Playschool (P Nicholls, 5-4 fav); 3, Hinter City (Miss H Handel, 17-2). ALSO RAN: 8 Star Of Screen (4th), 16 Lakefield (pu), 20 Gragara Pride (f). 6 ran. NR: The Haciendaros. ¾l, dist, 20l. G Balding at Fyfield. Tote: £2.70; £1.60, £1.50. DF: £3.10. CSF: £5.58. After a stewards' inquiry the result stood.

1.20 (2m ch) 1, TOWNLEY STONE (S Smith Eccles, 7-1); 2, Roadster (R Dunwoody, 7-2); 3, Music Be Magic (P Tuck, 5-2). ALSO RAN: 2-1 fav Pearlyman (6th), 11 Clay Hill (5th), 20 Hope End (4th). 6 ran. nk, 1½l, 1l, 15l, 2l. N Henderson at Lambourn. Tote: £7.00; £2.20, £1.90. DF: £9.70. CSF: £28.13.

1.55 (2m 4f hdle) 1, CATS EYES (P Leach, 3-1); 2, Riva Rose (M Pitman, 8-1); 3, Pike's Peak (S Smith Eccles, 2-1 fav). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Sheer Gold (4th), 6 Crimson Embers (5th), 25 Cut A Dash (pu). 6 ran. ¾l, 10l, 1½l, 7l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £3.50; £1.50, £2.10. DF: £8.00. CSF: £22.08.

2.30 (4m ch) 1, KNOCK HILL (G Mernagh, 15-2); 2, Greenbank Park (R Beggan, 10-1); 3, Lucky Vane (J Frost, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 9-2 fav Elmboy (pu), 11-2 Plundering (6th), West Tip (4th), 8 Kumbi (pu), 16 No Pardon, Why Forget (pu), 25 Memberson (5th), 150 Vulrory's Pie (pu). 11 ran. 12l, 4l, 7l, 4l, 10l. J Webber at Banbury. Tote: £9.00; £2.20, £2.40, £2.00. DF: £34.10. CSF: £70.31. Tricast: £402.13.

3.5 (3m hdle) 1, MODEL PUPIL (S J O'Neill, 6-1); 2, Dad's Gamble (M Meagher, 6-1); 3, Shoemander (C Gray, 33-1); 4, Dew (N Coleman, 11-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 jt-fav Franchmans Fancy (6th) & Sheer Steel (5th), 6 Emo Forever, 12 Rancher, 14 General Chryson (ur), 16 Super Express (pu), 20 Celtic Cracker (pu), 25 Veleso, 50 Silent Member (pu), Farmer, Downtown Chicago, Dim Drums. 16 ran. NR: Blackwell Boy. 2½l, 8l, 1½l, hd, 4l. O O'Neill at Cheltenham. Tote: £6.80; £2.00, £1.50, £5.60, £2.40. DF: £10.90. CSF: £40.07. Tricast: £1,06.18.

3.40 (2m hdle) 1, INTUITION (Dale McKeown, 15-8 fav); 2, Keynes (R Dunwoody, 9-4); 3, Vipsania (D Browne, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Redmarley (5th), 6 Dowjak (4th), 10 Mairead's Joy, 33 Good Samaritan (f), My Kikalong, 50 Friendly Member, Great Shadow, Sound Of Mull (6th), Telemashos, Tournament Leader, Manta Ann. 14 ran. NR: Tivian. 10l, 8l, 10l, 7l, 4l. R Akehurst at Epsom. Tote: £3.10; £1.50, £1.60, £2.80. DF: £3.90. CSF: £6.57. Placepot: £95.40. Jackpot: £28,903.15.

Leicester

Going: chase course, soft; hurdles, heavy

1.0 (2m hdle) 1, CELTIC SHOT (J Duggan, 16-1); 2, Northern Gambler (G Landau, 11-2); 3, Smith's Gamble (M Perrett, Evens fav). ALSO RAN: 9 Professional View (5th), 10 Over The Staney (4th), 12 Rosie Cone, Malandnn, 16 Old Fort Tavern, 50 Arctic Bard, Hasty Diver, Seal Court, True Jack, Worstead Tycoon, Celtic Mary, Crimson Moon (pu), Golden Bazaar (pu), High River (pu), Kharab Bibi, North Grange, Princess Babu. 26 ran. 3l, sh hd, 1½l, 3l, 2l. F Winter at Lambourn. Tote: £20.60; £5.30, £2.20, £1.20. DF: £115.90. CSF: £96.48.

1.30 (2m hdle) 1, MY DERYA (P Dever, 3-1 jt-fav); 2, Career Madness (J McLaughlin, 7-1); 3, Vulgaris (M Bowlby, 13-2). ALSO RAN: 3 jt-fav Atromitos (5th), 6 Reluctant Gift, 11 Clap Your Hands, 16 Cherry Lustre, 20 Tiber Gate (5th), 33 Bungebelle, Fire Lord, My Monte, Rudolph Mole, Dalby Girl (4th), Sporting Princess (pu). 14 ran. 15l, ½l, 12l, ¾l, 2l. B McMahon at Tamworth. Tote: £4.10; £1.80, £2.70, £2.20. DF: £12.70. CSF: £22.81. Bought in 2,200 gns.

2.0 (2m 4f ch) 1, MANNA REEF (Mr M Richards, 14-1); 2, Misty Fort (H Davies, 9-4). ALSO RAN: 11-8 fav Claude Monet (f), 5-2 You're Welcome (ur). 4 ran. dist. J Edwards at Ross-on-Wye. Tote: £7.50. DF: £7.00. CSF: £38.87.

2.30 (2m hdle) 1, KITTINGER (Steve Knight, 3-1); 2, Bird of Spirit (A Sharpe, 5-4 fav); 3, Nether Wallop (M Jenkins, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Cradle of Jazz (6th), 10 Green Ridge (4th), 16 Avon Vale (5th), Easby Emblem, 20 Le Marsh (pu). 8 ran. 2½l, 15l, hd, 4l, 1½l. A Turnell at Marlborough. Tote: £3.70; £1.50, £1.10, £4.90. DF: £3.70. CSF: £6.61.

3.0 (3m ch) 1, IVY LEAGUE (R Rowe, 15-2); 2, Reddown (Mr M Armytage, 4-1); 3, My Major (R Stronge, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 7-4 fav Fireworks Night (4th), 9-2 High Renown (6th), 13-2 Orchid Bay (f), 25 Boreen King (5th), Ned Lawless (pu), Vulcheck (ur), 33 Le Sarthois, 50 Penny Falls. 11 ran. sh hd, 12l, 8l, 8l, 3l. J Gifford at Findon. Tote: £6.50; £2.70, £1.50, £2.60. DF: £15.40. CSF: £35.93.

3.30 (2m hdle) 1, SHIPWRIGHT (R Chapman, 11-4 fav); 2, Shenton Way (M Dwyer, 4-1); 3, My Challenge (W Worthington, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 4 I Wonder When (6th), 8 Blue Sparkle (5th), 14 Petit Pain (4th), 16 End of the Road, Ensigns Kit, Hazel Nut, 20 Gilded Chief, 33 Royal Monk, Final Sept, Saunson Boy, What Will I Wear, Sunny Reef (pu). 15 ran. ¾l, 2½l, 4l, 6l, 2l. H O'Neill at Dorking. Tote: £4.10; £1.70, £2.20, £8.80. DF: £5.40. CSF: £13.56. Tricast £161.04. Placepot: £73.65.

RUGBY UNION

Helping the blind men at the back to see the light

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Five years ago Brian Ashton and Alan Davies spent a week in Toulouse studying the coaching structure and playing development at the French club which is generally regarded as the leading exponent of fluid, 15-man rugby. Ashton subsequently became assistant national coach to the England squad, with special responsibility for the backs, and Davies is now an assistant selector and coach to the national B team.

Ashton, sadly, was compelled by pressure of work to resign, though a contributory factor was probably his disappointment at England's back play in the last international season. Des Seabrook is now assistant to Martin Green, the national coach, and of the other selectors – though Michael Weston and Tony Jorden enjoyed distinguished playing careers as backs – the only individual who is both a former first-class back, qualified coach and professional educator is Davies.

The director of physical education at Trent College, Davies is deeply concerned with the status that Rugby Union occupies.

In keeping with the modern approach to the game, he is preparing a thesis for an M.Phil degree at Nottingham University which is concerned with such elements as tactical decision-making by key players in rugby, linked with mental imagery and game perception by individual players.

When he discusses back play, from the viewpoint of one who was a stand-off half who coached the Nottingham club for nine years and prepared the Midlands for the divisional championship, he instantly introduces the word confidence: "The only way backs can build confidence is to make sure they get the ball. It's an attitude of mind and the coaching I have seen of back play is not very creative.

"In the final game of the divisional championship [against South-West] we were totally dedicated to keeping the ball moving, which we thought would be a contrast with the style South-West might adopt. It was chancy but it did produce a lot of ball for the right wing, where Barry Evans got as many as 12 passes, while John Goodwin on the left got six.

"North, too, decided they were going to move the ball on every occasion and the more the backs get possession, the more they learn about speed of passing and play under pressure."

Davies would have approved of Will Carling, the Durham University centre, who has made an impact for North. Carling said after his exciting month's representative football: "I had the chance to play with and against the best in the country. I had enough belief in my game to know that I could survive but it worked out even better than survival. I am happy that all aspects of my game are up to standard. No outstanding strengths but, I hope, no weaknesses." No lack of confidence there.

Coaches off the field and players on the field all too easily fall into a safety-first pattern without realizing it, of turning the ball back inside to the forwards when they are under pressure, Davies believes.

"Players have to have the confidence to keep moving the ball and that involves forwards too. The backs are bound to make mistakes sometimes, they will make errors of judgement, but at least they have tried to make decisions and it is the forwards' job to provide cover. All 15 players are involved and if the forwards are not prepared to play that way, you are wasting your time.

Palmer: man of quality

"That's why players have to talk openly about it. You have to get the forwards to make a definite commitment to the backs: at Nottingham a couple of years ago we held an open forum, bringing the players together in groups over lunch one training day. They all jotted down their own ideas of how they wanted to play the game, considering the strengths and weaknesses of the club, which meant an open commitment as individuals.

"I'm very worried for the game because I think it's going downhill fast. It's only by developing the game through the backs that we will save it. Therefore people have got to involve backs more in coaching and devise more creative practices. The ideal is to get the national side to express themselves individually so that you fire the imagination of people watching, but it's getting this commitment from backs and forwards which is the main thing.

"Backs should be able to make a break with the confidence that they will be supported by other backs and by the forwards. Many of our backs play blind. It reminds me of the story Cliff Morgan used to tell years and years ago of the difference between Welsh backs and everyone else's: when a Welshman walks out of the town pub into the road he doesn't get knocked down by the nearest car because he automatically sees it coming.

"It's like an artist looking at trees in autumn. He sees 10 more colours than you or I because he has a trained eye, he can distinguish so much more. Our job is to uncover the light in English back play, to bring out the innate skill, which 30 or 40 years ago used to emerge because players automatically tried things for fun, but which has now been buried."

It is worth pointing out that last season Nottingham's try count went up some 50 per cent. It is also worth mentioning that Davies, at the invitation of Jack Rowell, Bath's coach, held a session with the Bath backs last October and was much impressed with their quality, particularly that of John Palmer, now retired from international rugby. In their next game Bath beat Cardiff in the best club game that many observers have seen this season.

Elements of new order take hold

By David Hands

It is as well, I suppose, to welcome in the New Year with rudiments of the new order; thus today there are two John Smith's merit table games, a big-match sponsor in Cardiff and London's leading fixture has been cancelled for what may reasonably be called political reasons. The sporting element in rugby, though, should also acknowledge an old favourite such as Bristol's sentimental journey to Clifton.

Moseley take the field in merit table A against Gloucester with John Goodwin in his new role at centre alongside the new recruit from Loughborough University, Chris Allen. Gloucester, in their last encounter, were quietly unstitched by Newport, an experience London Welsh had over Christmas at the hands of Llanelli and Swansea and will hope to forget in their merit table B game against Bedford.

British Gas maintain their sponsorship of the game between the holders of the Welsh and English cups, Cardiff and Bath, despite the withdrawals of Bath's England trialists. While it may not match the quality of the game between the two clubs at Bath earlier in the season, I do not doubt that Bath will give a holiday crowd a worthwhile showing and, in the process, help raise substantial funds for charity, which is the point of the sponsorship.

The leading game in London today would have been that between Wasps and Rosslyn Park, but for the fact that Wasps felt obliged to cancel the game because of the proposed inclusion in the Park XV of two South African players, Garth Wright and Anton Barnard.

Wasps have asked for their game against Harlequins to be de-merited on Saturday because they have lost seven players to England's trial at Twickenham. Indeed, some clubs may find other players withdrawing from matches as news of injured trialists filters through to the Rugby Football Union; those players now include Dean Richards, the Leicester No. 8, who has fluid on the knee.

Richards won two caps last season and his form thus far suggests that he is one of the few players who could be regarded as a "definite" for England's opening game in the five nations championship against Scotland on January 17. Andrew Macfarlane is No. 8 for the Rest but there is no specialist No. 8 among the original replacements.

TODAY'S TEAM NEWS

Moseley v Gloucester

Simon Robson returns at scrum half for Moseley who will be without the injured Colwell and Boyle in this John Smith's merit table A game. Hamlin continues to lead Gloucester in the absence of the injured Preedy and Cummins is at No 8 for the in-form, but injured Teague.

Cardiff v Bath

Despite the demands of England's trial, Bath still field four internationals in Egerton, Swift, Martin and Palmer, who links with Buzza in the centre against a Cardiff midfield including Cardus, the former England cap.

L Welsh v Bedford

After conceding 100 points on tour, the Welsh need a morale-boosting win in this merit table B game. Rodliffe and Bowen lock the scrum, while Noble and Howard Evans are at centre before making the short trip to Northampton on Saturday.

Aberavon v Pontypridd

There are four newcomers in Aberavon, Lewis and O'Leary in the backs, Richardson and Gerrard in the front row. Pontypridd are short of a stand-off half, two of their recent players having rejoined junior clubs.

Newport v Tredegar

Newport give debuts to King and Bedwell in their back row in a game which has replaced the scheduled fixture with Maesteg. Two more tries will give Newport their century this season.

Halifax v Harrogate

Gary Irvine, a member of the Anglo-Scots squad this season, returns at scrum half for Harrogate, for whom a win would mean a break-even record over the first half of the season.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C
FRANCE							
La Plagne	110	110	good	heavy	good	fine	+5
Skiing good							
Les Arcs	55	150	good	heavy	good	fine	-2
Cablecar still closed							
Flaine	98	150	good	varied	good	cloud	+3
Slight thaw							
Tignes	125	175	good	varied	good	fine	-2
Good skiing							
Val Thorens	190	290	good	crust	good	cloud	-6
Piste skiing good everywhere							
SWITZERLAND							
Crans Montana	120	190	good	varied	good	cloud	-5
Excellent piste conditions							
Verbier	80	200	good	varied	good	fine	+3
Excellent piste conditions							
Wengen	50	120	good	heavy	good	cloud	0
Good snow on piste							
Zermatt	80	145	good	varied	fair	fine	-1
Worn patches on lower slopes							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

SCOTLAND

Cairngorm: upper runs, runs complete, new snow on a firm base; middle runs, runs complete but narrow, new snow on a firm base; lower slopes, ample nursery areas, new snow on a firm base, vertical runs, 1600ft; hill roads, clear; main roads, clear; snow level, 2200ft. **Lecht:** upper runs, runs complete but narrow, new snow with icy patches; middle runs, runs complete, new snow with icy patches; lower slopes, ample nursery areas, new snow with icy patches; vertical runs, 700ft; hill roads, clear; main roads, clear, snow level, 2000ft. **Glenshee:** upper runs, some runs complete, new snow on a firm base; middle runs, some runs complete, new snow on a firm base; lower slopes, some runs complete, new snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 800ft; hill roads, clear; main roads, clear, snow level, 1600ft. **Glencoe** (weekends only): upper runs, runs complete, new snow on a hard base; lower slopes, runs complete but narrow, new snow on a firm base, vertical runs, 1500ft; hill roads, clear, main roads, clear; snow level, 1400ft

Powerful Swansea in full flow

By Gerald Davies

Swansea	33
Llanelli	12

Both sides had experienced mixed fortunes over the Christmas period, brilliant rugby followed by the mediocre. This match had about the same mixture, moments of excitement followed by periods when both teams struggled in the middle of the pack without making headway.

Llanelli, with four changes from their original selection also lost Thomas, their stand-off, in the first half, and could argue that most of their pack were weary after some heavy scrummaging with the Welsh squad the night before.

They played fitfully and, in addition, committed errors when they appeared to be on the verge of scoring. Twice they erred on either side of the interval only to see Swansea take advantage and accumulate points at the other end.

Wyatt and Childs had exchanged penalties before the first of Swansea's five tries. Llanelli, with the wind at their backs, surged on the attack, but got into a muddle in midfield and lost the ball. Hopkins hacked on, Parfitt pursued and in chasing for the line was obstructed by Smith. The referee awarded a penalty try. Wyatt converted.

Immediately after half-time, Llanelli again let the ball loose and Titley, near his own line, picked up to run all the way. Although confronted by Smith near the opposition's 22-metre line he dummied to Emyr in support, and scored under the posts.

Although May was in commanding form for Llanelli in the line-out and his back row had functioned well as a unit in the first half, their efforts were squandered by their hesitant backs. Moriarty and Webster gave powerful performances and John Thomas, too, the Wales B player who was playing his first major game in two years for Swansea, had an impressive return.

Emyr scored a marvellous try by beating his opposite man for pace on the outside, Titley claiming his second after Jones had taken the back row with him to the touchline before passing inside. Finally, Maurice Colclough charged over from a move close to the visitors' line. All these Wyatt converted.

In addition, Childs kicked a penalty for Llanelli as well as converting Delaney's late consolation try.

SCORERS: Swansea: Penalty try. Tries: M Titley (2), A Emyr, M Colclough. Cons: M Wyatt (5). Pen: M Wyatt.
Llanelli: Try: L Delaney. Con: B Childs. Pens: B Childs (2).

SWANSEA: M Wyatt; M Titley, K Hopkins, S Parfitt, A Emyr; M Dacey, R Jones (capt); K Colclough, P Hitchins, D Young, P Moriarty, T Cheeseman, M Colclough, R Webster, J Thomas.

LLANELLI: M Gravelle; R Smith, S Davies, B Childs, S Davies; C K Thomas (replacement: M Lewis), S Greville; A Buchanan, D Fox, L Delaney, G Jones, P May (capt), R Cornelius, A Griffiths, P Davies.

Referee: Mr K C Parfitt (Port Talbot)

Into the New Year with a cheer: the game that lifts their winter spirits is in good heart and voice for 1987

A heritage alive and kicking in a hard commercial world

FOOTBALL 1987

For all its crises and critics, football remains one of the great British passions. What are its hopes and fears as it enters the New Year? *The Times* invited four leading figures in the game to present their opinions.
First, **Ted Croker** (right), the general secretary of the Football Association

Many people offer me their sympathy for having such a difficult job trying to resolve the problems of football.

Sympathy is the last thing I need. I have a wonderful job associated with the game that contributes a tremendous amount to the well-being, health and happiness of the millions of young people who play football and the many millions more who derive enjoyment from watching the game, whether it be in stadia or on television.

Forty-one thousand football clubs under the control of the Football Association, through the county association administrative network, compared with 22,000 clubs 25 years ago...two thousand more clubs in the last five years... not bad for a game in decline.

I saw an absolutely wonderful match between Coventry City and Tottenham Hotspur last Saturday. It was hard, exciting, full of commitment by the players, the referee allowed play to flow and he had no need to caution anybody. The crowd was over 22,000 – Coventry's second biggest of the season – and they loved every minute of the game.

This was only part of an excellent Christmas holiday period for football: attendances were well up on the last two seasons and there were no reports of major trouble on the terraces.

Football is said to be slipping because only 400,000 people attend Football League matches on a Saturday compared with 800,000 30 years ago.

To sustain such an audience under the circumstances that have changed so dramatically in that period is an incredible achievement for which the League clubs deserve the highest praise.

The cinemas today enjoy only six per cent of the audience they had 30 years ago and no one suggests it is because the films are poor or the cinemas are uncomfortable. It is readily accepted that the change in lifestyle, the advent of television, home ownership and centrally heated houses and a wide variety of other sport and leisure activities offering counter-attractions are the reasons.

Remember, too, that where there is a capacity crowd at a football match these days, it is probably no more than two-thirds of the ground's capacity of 30 years ago. This is not only because of the safety requirements but also because there are so many more seats in stadia (the ratio is two standing to one seated) and executive boxes where, in terms of income, one person will pay at least as much as five people on the terraces.

Another factor in reducing the potential audience is that most grounds were developed in the early part of the century and they are not ideally placed for modern transport methods.

Football contributes a tremendous amount to an English winter and, notwithstanding the hooligans, the winter would seem much longer without it.

The hooligans cannot be ignored. They are not football hooligans; they are members of the public. They do not crawl out from under a stone, go to a football match, then crawl back under the stone. They are part of our society; they are national hooligans.

The Luton Town experiment in banning visiting supporters has been criticized. We all deplore the need to ban them, we deplore fences, we deplore segregation, we deplore close-circuit television, we deplore police presence. These are not steps that anyone in football wishes to take but they have been forced upon the game by the handful of individuals that many clubs possess, individuals who have no interest in the game other than a means of shielding their despicable behaviour.

I believe that any club is entitled – in fact, has a responsibility – to consider its own environment – and that varies enormously from one city to another, from one part of the country to another – and decide how best it can deal with this scourge on the game. It is up to us in football to support such initiatives. It is those who would imply that hooliganism does not exist who have their heads in the sand.

Another problem football has to take account of in 1987 is the balance between our traditions and the commercial pressures.

I am reminded of a visit I made to New York in 1979 at the invitation of the United States Soccer Federation for the final of the North American Soccer League play-offs.

The match was something of a disappointment to the League and to the New York Cosmos club, as it had been assumed that Cosmos would qualify for the final, whereas in fact it was Vancouver Whitecaps against Tampa Bay Rowdies.

One of the reasons I had accepted the invitation was that the match was staged at Meadowlands, a new stadium in New York that was widely praised and said to be an example of the latest in stadium design.

There were a number of former English players in the teams.

These were the early days of the Pele era with the Cosmos and on the day after the match I visited the office of the Warner Corporation, the massive entertainment company which owned the Cosmos. I met one of the senior directors of the corporation and I was shown the commercial exploitation of Pele in its various forms, especially the merchandising, and it was very impressive.

Two particular points struck me during my discussion with the director, who was, I believe, an Eastern European who had been extremely successful since emigrating to America and was obviously a shrewd businessman.

Firstly, I asked him what the gate had been the night before and he said: "Well, Mr Croker, I cannot tell you how many people were there but I can tell you how much money we took." This seemed to be typical of the American marketing approach.

The other question I asked, having two nights earlier seen the Warner Corporation baseball team, was why did they have no advertising on the players' shirts? He said to me in a broad mixture of Eastern European and New York English: "I think that would be undignified." This, coming from him, impressed me deeply, and to me shirt advertising has always been undignified.

His reason was probably backed up by Warner's overall marketing strategy but it made me realize that the most difficult task in sport today is striking a balance between commercial sagacity and preserving the heritage that most Britons still value highly.

TOMORROW

Graham Kelly, secretary of the Football League, with his views of the game and its problems

ATHLETICS

Cram finds welcome in Belfast

Steve Cram's winter training is back on course again following his disappointment at missing out on the northern cross-country championships.

Jarrow, Cram's club, has been excluded from the championships because their late entry application was rejected, so the European and world 1,500 metres champion is to travel to Northern Ireland to compete in another top quality event, delighting the organizers of Saturday's Brooks international cross-country race at Mallusk, in Belfast.

Cram said: "I needed a hard cross-country race before going to Australia in mid-January to train and have a few races. Since my club is not allowed to compete in the Northern championships, Mallusk is my only available opportunity for good competition before leaving.

"I am delighted to be returning to Northern Ireland. When I was last there in 1982, I enjoyed both the competition and hospitality. I know that the reputation of the Mallusk race has been considerably enhanced since my last visit."

Cram's opponents include Roger Hackney and Eric De Beck, the former world cross-country champion. The women's race also features a quality field, headed by Liz Lynch, the Commonwealth 10,000 metres champion from Scotland.

TENNIS

Quarter-final reward for Pashley

Neale Pashley wasted little time in reaching the quarter-finals of the Prudential British junior covered court championships at Queen's Club, London, yesterday. Pashley, aged 17, the eighth seed from Sutton, Surrey, took only 54 minutes to beat Gary Henderson, of Harrogate, 6-1, 6-0.

There was nothing in it for the first couple of games, but Pashley dropped only five points in the next five games. Henderson was under more pressure in the second set and his hopes faded when he failed to break Pashley's service in the fourth game.

Mark Petchey, the second seed, took his place in the quarter-finals with a 7-6, 6-3, win against Chris Wilkinson, of Southampton, in a scrappy game in which both boys had trouble holding their service. But the sixth seed, Gary Drake, from Plymouth, found the resilience and spirit of Nigel Russell, of Dorset, too much and eventually went down 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.

BOYS' SINGLES: Third round: N Pashley (Surrey) bt G Henderson (Yorks), 6-1, 6-0. J Hunter (Surrey) bt A Fisher (N Wales), 2-5, 6-0, 6-2; N Russell (Dorset) bt G Drake (Devon), 5-7, 6-4, 6-4; M Petchey (Essex) bt C Wilkinson (Hants and Isle of Wight), 7-6, 6-3; D Ahl (Devon) bt D Kirk (Lincs), 6-2, 6-4, N Mansell (Middx) bt D Bishop (Yorks), 6-0, 1-6, 6-4; D Sapsford (Surrey) bt D Coull (Essex), 6-0, 6-3. C Beecher (Kent) bt S Cornish (Somerset), 6-0, 6-1

GIRLS' SINGLES: Third round: A Naipal (Lancs) bt A Hall (Devon), 6-3, 6-3. M Nall (Oxon) bt L Smith (Leics), 6-1, 6-3. A Fleming (Leics) bt L Nimmo (Warwicks), 6-0, 6-3. A Simpkin (Leics) bt N Emract (Dorset), scratched. S Loosemore (S Wales) bt S Armitage (Yorks), 4-6, 7-5, 6-2; V Humphreys-Davies (Cambs) bt S Godman (Surrey), 6-4, 7-5. S Timms (Essex) bt S Jenkins (Berks), 2-6, 6-4, 6-3

FOOTBALL: SMITH'S HAPPY HOLIDAY CONSOLIDATES HIS POSITION

Huddersfield take heart

By Martin Searby

Only managerless **Huddersfield** and Billy Bremner's **Leeds United** can look back on the Christmas programme with any sort of pleasure while the other Yorkshire clubs have the next 72 hours to sort themselves out.

Howard Wilkinson, the **Sheffield Wednesday** manager was anticipating at least four points from the games against **Manchester City** and **Liverpool**; in the event took none and failed to score into the bargain. "We have to erase completely the recent form, in particular the first half performance against City," he said. "We must ensure that the standards that took us to our highest place are put on show."

But Wilkinson does not underrate **Norwich** who visit Hillsborough today. "Many teams, deep down, don't regard them as belonging in the first division. But they are there as of right and we would do well to recognize it."

While pressure builds on Yorkshire's only team in the top flight, Bremner takes Leeds to fourth-placed **Ipswich** with the hope that his team has grown in confidence after ending **Oldham's** unbeaten home run. "After the disaster at **Stoke** and the home draw with **Sunderland** when we did not fire on all cylinders we had to win at Oldham to stay in the picture" said Bremner. "We could not afford to slip any further from the leading pack and the players are fully aware of the situation."

Huddersfield, who took maximum points at Christmas, are in the care of locum manager Steve Smith and are likely to stay that way until after the third round of the FA Cup, although there is a growing list of names who are said to be interested in taking on the Leeds Road Club.

Keith Burkinshaw, formerly of Tottenham Hotspur, is the latest, joining Terry Yorath of Swansea, who still lives in Leeds, and Trevor Cherry who started his career with the club. Cherry however has enough problems at the moment trying to strengthen the leaky **Bradford City** defence for the trip to Roker Park. It should be said that Smith is also a substantial contender with a proven record with the Central League side, which he guided to an 11-match winning run this season.

Huddersfield will be trying for a third successive win against **Grimsby**, while the outcome at Boothferry Park, where **Hull City** play **Barnsley**, will have a substantial effect on the basement. Brian Horton, the Hull manager, is confident that his team can climb away from the trouble and Allan Clarke, his opposite number, is equally sure of the future.

"All we need is a goal to set us on our way" says Horton. "When they don't come we get anxious and that is communicated to the fans." Clarke has remained largely imperturbable despite his team spending most of the season propping up the others. They did, however, lead **Derby County** by two goals for most of last Saturday's game

Sunderland ready to move on

Alan Sunderland, the former Arsenal forward, has had his contract cancelled by Ipswich Town by mutual consent. The scorer of the winning goal in the 1979 FA Cup Final against Manchester United and the holder of one England cap, Sunderland, aged 34, is now looking for another club, possibly for a role as player-coach.

The Ipswich manager, Bobby Ferguson, who signed Sunderland on a free transfer from Arsenal three years ago, said: "Alan has had troubles with injuries and has not figured in the club this season.

● David Puckett, the leading scorer for Bournemouth this season, has been ruled out for the rest of the campaign by knee ligament damage. The loss of the 25-year-old, who has scored 16 goals, was described as "a severe blow to our promotion hopes" by Harry Redknapp, the third division club's manager.

● The Canadian World Cup midfield player, Paul James, has joined the third division leaders, Middlesbrough on a month's trial. James, aged 23 and born in Cardiff, played three World Cup games last summer and has won 35 international caps.

Previously with Toronto Blizzard, James wrote to several Football League clubs. Middlesbrough, who were the first to respond, have also appointed the former Aston Villa forward and manager of Wolverhampton Wanderers, Brian Little, as youth team coach.

● Chesterfield have been forced to change a winning formula because the New Year festivities have robbed them of their defender, Brian Scrimgeour. The team, unbeaten in their last seven matches, have to alter their defence for today's third division match at Brentford because Scrimgeour has more pressing duties as a publican.

The players are staying in a London hotel overnight but Scrimgeour, who runs a Chesterfield pub and has a part-time playing contract, has decided he is unable to leave his business on the busiest night of the year.

TODAY'S TEAM NEWS

(Figures in parentheses indicate league positions).

Arsenal (1) v Wimbledon (11)

With Groves still injured, Nicholas retains his place for Arsenal.

Nottingham Forest (4) v Liverpool (3)

Clough can still find no place for Metgod, whose contract is up for renewal, despite only one point in three matches. Johnston returns to a 14-man squad after missing nine matches with a back strain for Liverpool, but Nicol is still out.

Chelsea (20) v Queen's Park Rangers (13)

James is likely to keep his Rangers place at right back despite Neill's availability. Fereday and Byrne should return. Bumstead has an achilles tendon injury, while Pates and Wegerle are ill, but Hollins hopes both will recover.

Coventry (7) v Luton (8)

Coventry, with several injuries, may be forced to play Phillips and Pickering at full back if Borrows and Downs are unfit. Hill, missing for six weeks, had his knee ligament injury flare up in training yesterday and is out.

Everton (2) v Aston Villa (18)

Everton, still without the suspended Sharp, are unchanged. Villa have postponed Cooper's debut but welcome back Evans after missing three games through suspension and a back injury.

Manchester United (15) v Newcastle United (20)

Turner returns for United in place of Walsh who faces a lengthy lay-off after twisting a knee. Terry Gibson and O'Brien are included in a squad of 14. Alan Davies, back from a loan period at Carlisle, will face his former club if McCreery, another former United player, fails a test on his groin. Beardsley is also troubled with a groin injury.

Charlton Athletic (17) v Tottenham Hotspur (6)

Hodge is set to return for Tottenham who include Claesen and Miller, who has not played in the first team for two months, in a squad of 14. Charlton have Thompson recovered from knee trouble, but must decide whether to disturb the side that thrashed Manchester City 5-0.

Oxford United (14) v Southampton (16)

Clarke is hopeful of playing despite a dislocated big toe. Dennis and Bond are out through injury and Baker and Hobson (both flu) are doutful. McDonald replaces Trewick, who has a virus, for Oxford.

Sheffield Wednesday (10) v Norwich City (5)

Norwich, unbeaten in their last five games, are unchanged for the fifth consecutive time.

Watford (9) v Manchester City (19)

Manchester City, without Baker (foot), Reid (ankle) and possibly McCarthy (virus), add two teenagers to their squad, Scott and Barrett.

West Ham United (12) v Leicester City (22)

Leicester, who are without Osman, Wilson, Sealy, Mauchlen and Walsh, include three teenagers in a squad of 14. Lynex returns from loan from Birmingham to play. West Ham must check on Devonshire (thigh) and Walford (hamstring). Stewart and Gale are still ruled out. Orr may return.

MOTOR RALLYING

Briton takes prologue

Paris (AP) – Andrew Cowan, of Britain, driving a Mitsubishi-Pajero, won the prologue of the 23-day Paris to Dakar race yesterday. Cowan, a former winner of the London to Sydney rally, prevailed on a route that went from Cergy to Pontoise.

Cowan's nearest rivals over the four miles were Shekhar Mehta, of Kenya, who was driving a Peugeot 205 Turbo, and Jean da Silva, of France, in a Mitsubishi-Pajero.

Gilles Lalay, of France, who took the lead in the motorcycle division, was second in the event last year behind Cyril Neveu, of France, who placed fifth in the prologue.

The rally runs through the deserts of Algeria, Nigeria, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal. About 500 cars, motorcycles and trucks will begin the first stage, from Versailles to Barcelona, today, a distance of about 750 miles.

From there the competitors will travel across the Mediterranean to Algiers. The drivers will average almost 375 miles each day before arriving at the capital of Senegal. Some stages cover courses that have not been used in years and bush tracks have been created. Passing through some of the world's poorest countries, the event has drawn criticism, but the presence of celebrities, combined with a series of spectacular accidents, has kept interest high.

Drivers from other disciplines are participating in the rally this year. Patrick Tambay, of France, a Formula One driver, is amongthe well-known competitors. Tambay, who stands seventeenth after the prologue, is the first active Formula One driver to compete in the rally. Ari Vatanen, of Finland, a top international rally driver, encountered problems yesterday: his car broke a front suspension and he limped home in 204th position.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA): Indiana Pacers 111, Cleveland Cavaliers 99; New York Knicks 103, Washington Bullets 97; Detroit Pistons 103, Milwaukee Bucks 99; Golden State Warriors 102, Chicago Bulls 99; San Antonio Spurs 115, Utah Jazz 109; Philadelphia 76ers 111, Denver Nuggets 108, Houston Rockets 105, Los Angeles Clippers 102, Portland Trail Blazers 120, Phoenix Suns 105, Boston Celtics 104, Seattle SuperSonics 102.

HELSINKI: Pohjola tournament: Finland 80, Turkey 75. England 79 (Vaughan 26, Gardner 13, Scott 9, Scantlebury 8) West Germany 75 (after overtime). **Final positions:** 1, Finland, 2, Turkey, 3, England, 4, West Germany.

CYCLING

COLOGNE: Six-day race: First day: 1, J Kristen (WG) and R Hermann (Liech), 7pts; **One lap behind:** 2, U Bolten (WG) and P Bincoletto (It) 10. 3, G Frank and M Marcussen (Den) 7. 4, D Thurau (WG) and R Pijnen (Neth) 4. **Two laps:** 5, H Rinklin and J Schlaphoff (WG), 10. 6, S Tourné and E de Wilde (Bel) 9. 7, M Vaarten (Bel) and G Knetemann (Neth) 0. **Three laps.** 8, G Braun (WG) and T Sawyer (Austria) 1. 9, V Diehl (WG) and S Hermann (Liech) 1. **Four laps:** 10, W Betz and D Giecken (WG) 4. **Second day:** 1, J Kristen and R Hermann 54pts. 2, S Tourné and E de Wilde, 42. 3, D Thurau and R Pijnen 26. **One lap behind:** 4, G Frank and M Marcussen 20. **Two laps:** 5, U Bolten and P Bincoletto 34. **Three laps:** 6, H Rinklin and J Schlaphoff 59. 7, M Vaarten G Knetemann 19. 8, G Braun and T Sawyer, 17. **Seven laps:** 9, V Diehl and S Hermann 12. **Eight laps:** 10, W Betz and D Giecken 18

FOOTBALL

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed: Dundee United v St Mirren (waterlogged pitch) **Second division:** Meadowbank Thistle 1, Berwick Rangers 0.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Postponed: Blackburn v Everton (waterlogged pitch). Manchester City 3, Hull 2.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Cambridge 1, Portsmouth 1.

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL): Calgary Flames 4, New Jersey Devils 3. New York Rangers 5, Pittsburgh Penguins 3; Quebec Nordiques 6, Montreal Canadiens 3. Hartford Whalers 3, Washington Capitals 1; Chicago Blackhawks 5, New York Islanders 3; St Louis Blues 4, Boston Bruins 3; Los Angeles Kings 4, Philadelphia Flyers 1; Edmonton Oilers 7, Vancouver Canucks 3. **DAVOS, Switzerland: Spengler Cup tournament: Final:** Team Canada 9 Sokol (Kiev) 6.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Swansea 33, Llanelli 12.

TENNIS

ADELAIDE: South Australian men's championship: Second round: W Masur (Aus) bt M Woodforde (Aus), 3-6, 7-5, 7-6, G Michibata (Can) bt B Dyke (Aus) 6-2, 6-3; N Odizor (Nigeria) bt A Lane (Aus) 6-2, 7-6; A Mansdorf (Isr) bt J Levine (US), 4-6, 6-1, 6-3.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Wigan the main attraction

By Keith Macklin

The final of the John Player Special Trophy, at Burnden Park, Bolton, a week on Saturday, will have a crowd limit of 26,000. If a full house is attracted it will be the biggest crowd ever to watch a final in this competition.

Since Wigan are one of the finalists there is every possibility the figure will be reached, as they are capable of taking as many as 15,000 spectators with them for the match against Warrington.

In today's championship matches a new face will be seen in charge of **Leigh** for the game at **Salford**. In yet another festive season dismissal, Tommy Dickens lost his coaching post at Leigh and has been replaced by the former St Helens coach, Billy Benyon, who has been coaching at Pilkingtons Recs in the national amateur league.

Undoubtedly the top game of the day is the rehearsal for the Trophy final at Central Park. **Wigan** had hoped to parade Wally Lewis in this match, but he is ruled out by a shoulder injury. However, the powerful Wigan squad, led by Ellery Hanley, can now settle down to business in attempting to clean up the game's major trophies.

Missing from the Wigan line-up will be the Great Britain second-row forward, Ian Potter, who is to have a knee operation. Rob Louw, the South African, takes his place. For their part, **Warrington** are bursting with confidence after that stunning performance against Widnes in last Saturday's Trophy semi-final.

St Helens visit their neighbours **Widnes** in what would normally be a fierce derby encounter. Widnes are so ravaged by injuries to first-team players, however, that they will be unable to name a side until shortly before the kick-off. Basnett, Gilbert and David and Paul Hulmes all joined the the injury list yesterday. Faced with such problems, Widnes are forced to play McKenzie, the hooker, at stand-off half. In these circumstances, St Helens will expect a victory to renew their championship challenge.

The reigning champions, **Halifax**, having reached third place, travel to face **Hull Kingston Rovers** and may find their opponents are no longer an easy touch as injuries clear up.

Leeds, under Maurice Bamford, should account for **Oldham**, and **Castleford** will probably intensify the misery at present surrounding **Bradford Northern**.

In the second division **Doncaster** have a home game for the first time in more than a month, against **Mansfield**, **Hunslet** should do the double over **Bramley**, and **Whitehaven** play **Workington Town** in what is usually a hard-fought Cumbrian derby. **Rochdale Hornets'** second division home game against **Carlisle** has been postponed because 10 of their players have influenza.

TODAY'S FOOTBALL, RUGBY AND OTHER FIXTURES

3.0 unless stated

First division

Arsenal v Wimbledon
Charlton v Tottenham
Chelsea v QPR
Coventry v Luton
Everton v A Villa
Manchester U v Newcastle
Nottm F v Liverpool
Oxford U v Southampton
Sheffield Wed v Norwich
Watford v Manchester C
West Ham v Leicester

Fourth division

Aldershot v Southend
Burnley v Rochdale
Cambridge U v Orient
Halifax v Lincoln
Northampton v Colchester
Preston v Wrexham
Scunthorpe v Hartlepool
Stockport v Crewe (7.30)
Swansea v Exeter
Tranmere v Hereford (2.0)
Wolves v Peterborough

Second division

Birmingham v Plymouth
Brighton v Millwall (11.30)
Derby v Blackburn
Huddersfield v Grimsby
Hull v Barnsley
Ipswich v Leeds
Oldham v Sheffield U
Portsmouth v Reading
Stoke v Shrewsbury
Sunderland v Bradford P
West Brom v C Palace

Scottish premier division

Aberdeen v Dundee
Clydebank v Falkirk (2.0)
Hamilton v Motherwell (2.0)
Hibernian v Hearts
Rangers v Celtic (2.0)

Scottish first division

Brechin v Forfar
Dunfermline v E Fife
Montrose v Airdrie
Morton v Dumbarton (2.0)
Partick v Clyde (2.0)
Queen of Sth v Kilmarnock

Third division

Bournemouth v Swindon
Brentford v Chesterfield
Bristol C v Bristol R (11.30)
Bury v Wigan
Carlisle v Bolton P
Chester v Notts County P
Darlington v Blackpool
Doncaster v Rotherham
Gillingham v Walsall
Mansfield v Port Vale
Newport v Fulham
York v Middlesbrough

Scottish second division

Albion R v Queen's Park (2.0)
Alloa v Stirling (2.0)
Ayr v Stranraer
E Stirling v Stenhsmuir
Raith v Cowdenbeath (2.0)
St Johnstone v Arbroath

SMIRNOFF-IRISH LEAGUE (2.15): Bangor v Crusaders; Cliftonville v Carrick; Coleraine v Newry; Distillery v Ards; Glenavon v Ballymena; Larne v Glentoran; Linfield v Portadown (3.0).

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Bath v Weymouth, Enfield v Barnet; Gateshead v Scarborough; Kettering v Wealdstone; Kidderminster v Cheltenham; Runcorn v Northwich; Stafford v Altrincham; Sutton United v Maidstone; Telford v Nuneaton; Welling v Dagenham.

MULTIPART LEAGUE: Burton v Gainsborough; Buxton v Matlock; Caernarfon v Rhyl; Horwich v Southport; Macclesfield v Hyde; Marine v Morecambe; Mossley v Chorley; Oswestry v Witton; South Liverpool v Bangor City; Workington v Barrow (2.0); Worksop v Goole (7.30).

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: *Bedworth v Corby;* Bromsgrove v Alvechurch; Chelmsford v Crawley; Dudley v Shepshed (at Stourbridge, 7.30); Fisher v Basingstoke (3.30); Folkestone v Dartford; Gosport v Aylesbury (7.0); *King's Lynn v Cambridge City;* Redditch v Worcester (11.0); Salisbury v Fareham; Witney v Willenhall. **Midland division:** Bilston v Stourbridge; Bridgnorth v Sutton Coldfield (7.30); Buckingham v Rushden; *Gloucester City v Merthyr Tydfil;* Halesowen v VS Rugby; Leamington v Coventry Sporting; Leicester United v Hednesford; Mile Oak v Grantham; Moor Green v Forest Green; Wellingborough v Banbury Utd. **Southern division:** Andover v Waterlooville; Burnham and Hillingdon v Dorchester; Canterbury City v Erith and Belvedere; Chatham v Hastings; Corinthian v Ruislip; *Dunstable v Woodford* (11.30); Gravesend and Northfleet v Dover; Thanet v Ashford; Tonbridge v Sheppey; Trowbridge v Poole.

VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: Premier division: *Bishop's Stortford v Hitchin;* Bromley v Carshalton; Croydon v Dulwich (7.30); Farnborough v Hayes; Harrow v Yeovil; St Albans v Hendon; Tooting and Mitcham v Kingstonian; Walthamstow v *Barking (at Barking FC, 7.30);* Windsor and Eton v Wycombe (3.30); Wokingham v Slough; Worthing v Bognor. **First division:** Billericay v Basildon; Boreham Wood v Stevenage; Grays v Tilbury (11.15); Kingsbury v Finchley; Leatherhead v Epsom and Ewell; Lewes v Southwick; Leyton Wingate v Leytonstone Ilford; Maidenhead United v Bracknell; Oxford City v Uxbridge (7.30); Walton and Hersham v Staines; Wembley v *Hampton.* **Second division North:** Barton v Chesham; Cheshunt v Clapton; Collier Row v Hornchurch (3.30); Hemel Hempstead v Haringey; Letchworth v Harlow (7.30); Rainham v Aveley (1.45); Royston v Saffron Walden (3.30); Tring v Berkhamsted; Ware v Hertford; Wivenhoe v Heybridge; Wolverton v Vauxhall Motors. **Second division South:** Banstead v Dorking; Chalfont St Peter v Marlow (11.0); Chertsey v Woking; Eastbourne United v Horsham; Feltham v Southall (6.30); Flackwell Heath v Egham; Hungerford v Newbury; Metropolitan Police v Molesey; Petersfield v Camberley (11.30); Ruislip Manor v Harefield.

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division (11.0): Chobham v Virginia Water; *Cobham v BAe (Weybridge); Cove* v Hartley Wintney; Farleigh v Chipstead; Farnham v Ash; Frimley Green v Cranleigh; Malden Vale v Malden Town; Merstham v Horley; Westfield v *Godalming.*

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristol Manor Farm v Weston-super-Mare (11.0); Bideford v Dawlish; Clandown v Paulton; Exmouth v Minehead; Liskeard v Bristol City; Mangotsfield v Melksham; Saltash v Barnstaple; Radstock v Clevedon. **League Cup: Third round:** Chippenham v Chard.

BUILDING SCENE EASTERN LEAGUE: Clacton v Colchester United; Great Yarmouth v Chatteris; Lowestoft v Tiptree; Thetford v Gorleston; Wisbech v March Town.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Accrington Stanley v Radcliffe; Bootle v Burscough; Eastwood Hanley v Congleton; Glossop v Stalybridge; St Helens v Kirkby; Rossendale v Clitheroe; Winsford v Leek.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Bridlington Trinity v Armthorpe; Bentley Victoria v North Ferriby; Farsley v Denaby; Guiseley v Brigg.

NENE GROUP UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Arlesey v Baldock (7.30); Spalding v Bourne.

RUGBY UNION

JOHN SMITH'S MERIT TABLE A
Moseley v Gloucester
JOHN SMITH'S MERIT TABLE B
London Welsh v Bedford (2.15)
CLUB MATCHES
Aberavon v Pontypridd
Cardiff v Bath
Clifton v Bristol (2.30)
Fylde v Blackburn (2.30)
Gosforth v Novocastrians (2.15)
Liverpool St Helens v Wilmslow (2.30)
Moseley v Gloucester (2.30)
Newport v Tredegar
Nuneaton v Edwardians (2.30)
Otley v Headingley (2.15)
Sale v Manchester
Streatham-Croydon v Saracens (2.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Castleford v Bradford (3.30); Hull KR v Halifax; Leeds v Oldham; Salford v Leigh; Widnes v St Helens; Wigan v Warrington. **SECOND DIVISION:** Batley v Dewsbury (11.30); Doncaster v Mansfield (2.30); Huddersfield v Swinton (3.30); Hunslet v Bramley (3.30); Keighley v Blackpool (3.15); Whitehaven v Workington (3.30).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: World Invitation club championships (at Crystal Palace NSC, 9.30am).

MOTOR CYCLE RACING: Donington Park (12.0)

RACKETS: *Open Under 24 singles and doubles championships (at Queen's Club, West Kensington).*

REAL TENNIS: Scottish amateur singles and doubles championships (at Troon).

ROAD RUNNING: Morpeth to Newcastle race.

TENNIS: Junior covered court championships (at Queen's Club, West Kensington).

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Edited by Peter Dear
and Peter Davalle

Peter O'Toole as the megalomaniacal film director in Richard Rush's film The Stunt Man (on Channel 4 at 9.30pm)

A sound idea for the new year

● The new year begins with another bout of furniture shifting - just the job for shaking off those morning after blues. Twice today, *BBC2 and Radio 3 join forces* again to allow us to enjoy just about the most satisfactory blend of sound and picture quality we are likely to get until TV stereo sound takes its long-promised giant leap forward. You shouldn't have much difficulty re-positioning your speakers on either side of the TV set. Where the trouble can start is when the decision has to be made as to who will sit in the chair that gives the best spread of sound.

On this point, the BBC engineers are silent. It is a domestic crisis each family must tackle on its own, and I wish you luck. First of the day's *BBC2*/stereo broadcasts is at 11.15am, and it is the second half of the annual New Year's Day

CHOICE

Concert from Vienna. Part one is on Radio 3 only (10.05am). The second TV/stereo broadcast comes at 7.15, and it is a complete performance of Johann Strauss's **Die Fledermaus**. Unlike the Vienna concert, *this is not a live* transmission but a recording of last night's performance at the Bavarian State Opera House in *Munich*. The bubbles in this champagne opera should not, however, be any the fewer for having been kept standing overnight in the glass.

● Best of the rest on TV today: the final of the **Choir of the Year** competition from Buxton (BBC2, 3.55pm), with six groups fighting it out in the nicest possible way; and a repeat screening of Louis Marks's and Giles Foster's TV version of **Silas Marner** (BBC2, 5.05pm) which is so faithful to the book that George Eliot might have written the script herself. A crop of fine movies includes Bill Forsyth's **Local Hero** (BBC1, 9.45pm, except Scotland, 10.15); Tati's **Mon Oncle** (Channel 4, 12.05pm), and (worth watching if only for its terrific songs and the remarkable assurance of Julie Andrews in her first screen role), Walt Disney's part-animated fantasy **Mary Poppins** (BBC1, 2.30pm)

● Radio choice: **Masterbrain** (Radio 4, 12.27pm) is a battle of the giants, the contestants having performed astonishingly well either in Radio 4's *Brain of Britain* or BBC TV's *Mastermind*. Another infallible cure for the morning after the New Year's Eve blues.

Peter Davalle

Princess Anne visits a Camden centre for Asian women in The Princess and the Children (ITV, 3.30pm)

BBC1

8.00 **Ceefax.** News headlines, weather, travel and sports bulletins.

8.35 **The Flintstones.** (r) **9.00 Play Chess with Bill Hartston 9.10 Charlie Brown Special 9.35 Why Don't You..?** Diverting ideas for bored youngsters. *10.00 The Mole in a Dream.* **10.25 Children's BBC.** Phillip Schofield with New Year greetings **10.30 Play School.** (r)

10.50 **Edinburgh Military Tattoo 1986** including the Fanfare by the Massed Pipes and Drums; plus, the Heeresmusikkorps 300 from the Federal Republic of Germany, and the 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles. The commentator is Tom Fleming. (r)

12.00 **Sherlock Holmes and the Baskerville Curse.** An animated version of the Conan Doyle novel, with the voices of Peter O'Toole, Helen Morse, and Ron Haddrick. (r)

1.15 **News with Moira Stuart.** *Weather.*

1.30 **South Pacific in London.** A behind-the-scenes look at a new recording of Rogers and Hammerstein's musical. With Kiri Te Kanawa, Mandy Patinkin, Jose Carreras, Sarah Vaughan, and the Ambrosian Singers. The London Symphony Orchestra is conducted by Jonathan Tunick. (r)

2.30 **Film: Mary Poppins** (1964) starring Julie Andrews, Dick Van Dyke, and David Tomlinson. *An Oscar-winning* musical fantasy about a nanny with magical powers, capable of cleaning a room in a trice and able to transport her two *charges to magical kingdoms.* Directed by Robert Stevenson. (Ceefax)

4.45 **Final Score** presented by Harry Gration.

5.00 ***Paradise.*** *An award-winning* animated film.

5.15 **News with Moira Stuart.** Weather.

5.25 **The Circus World Championships.** Battersea Park Big Top is the venue of a team championship in which China takes on the Rest of the World.

6.25 **The Russ Abbot Show.** Comedy sketches and music. The guests include Les Dennis, Maggie Moone, and Bella Emberg. (r) (Ceefax)

7.00 **Top of the Pops** presented by Gary Davies.

7.30 ***EastEnders.*** *Dr Legg does* something about Pauline's troubles; Sharon has a heart-to-heart with Pete; Kathy makes a business decision; *and Den is cracking a New* Year Day whip over his staff. (Ceefax)

8.00 **Only Fools and Horses.** Del agrees to act as a courier, collecting some diamonds from Amsterdam for his friend Boysie. But when he discovers that an old acquaintance, Stater of the Yard, knows of his little trip and has all the usual *exits covered, Del, Rodney,* and Uncle begin a trip to 'Hull and back' (r) (Ceefax)

9.35 **News with Moira Stuart.** Weather.

9.45 ***Film: Local Hero*** *(1983)* starring Burt Lancaster, Denis Lawson, Fulton Mackay, and *Peter Reigert.* A comedy about a United States oil company who want to build a refinery where a remote Scottish village is sited. A personable young man is sent to negotiate a fair price with the villagers, but instead discovers that the village has a strange effect on visitors. Directed by Bill Forsyth. (Ceefax)

11.35 **Film: To Have and Have Not*** (1944) starring Humphrey *Bogart, Lauren Bacall, and* Walter Brennan. Second World War drama about an American fisherman, living on the French Caribbean island of Martinique *after the fall of France.* Directed by Howard Hawks. (Ceefax)

1.15 **Weather.**

Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke among the cartoon butterflies in Walt Disney's Mary Poppins (BBC1, 2.30pm)

BBC 2

9.00 **Ceefax.**

10.50 **Harold Lloyd*** Clips from two of the comedian's films - A Sailor Made Man, made in 1921, and Spring Fever, a 1919 production. (r)

11.15 **The New Year's Day Concert.** The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Herbert von Karajan, in a concert from the Golden Hall of the Musikverein, Vienna, with a programme of music by *members of the Strauss family.* In the waltz, Voices of the Spring, the soprano soloist is Kathleen Battle. Introduced by Richard Baker. (simultaneous broadcast on *stereo* Radio 3 which also covers part one of the concert, from 10.05 to 10.45)

12.30 **Racing from Cheltenham.** Richard Pitman introduces covrage of the Ernest Jones Diamond Handicap Hurdle (12.45); the Ernest Jones Jewellers Handicap Chase (1.20); the Steel Plate Trial *Hurdle (1.55); and the Andy* Stovold Benefit Year Novices' Chase (2.30).

2.45 **Saturday Review of the Year.** A compilation of the best of the *arts of 1986, presented by* Russell Davies.

3.55 **Choir of the Year 1986.** The final, from Buxton Opera House, presented by Brian Kay. Competing are Bath Camerata; the Oriel Singers; Cantamus; the Chamber Choir of the Arts Educational School; Tring Park; and Grosvenor High School Choir, Belfast.

5.05 **Silas Marner,** starring Ben Kingsley, Jenny Agutter, Patrick Rycart, and Patsy Kensit. George Eliot's story of a lonely, outcast weaver whose *life takes a change of* fortune when, on a winter's night, a young girl arrives at his deserted cottage. (r) (Ceefax)

6.40 **Ski Jumping** from Garmisch-Partenkirchen. The commentator is Ron Pickering.

7.15 **Die Fledermaus.** Johann Strauss's musical tale of a doctor who gets his own back on a rakish friend after a practical joke was played on him. With Wolfgang Brendel, Eberhard Waechter, Pamela Coburn, Janet Perry, Brigitte Fassbaender, the Bavarian State Orchestra, Chorus and Ballet of the Bavarian State Opera, conducted by Carlos Kleiber (simultaneous broadcast with stereo Radio 3).

9.50 ***Film: The Secret Drawer*** (1985) Part one of a two-episode French thriller about a widow who discovers that her late husband was leading a double life and starts to investigate. Starring Michele Morgan and Daniel Gelin. (part two tomorrow evening) (English subtitles)

11.55 **Cricket: The Perth Challenge.** Highlights of the one-day game between England and Australia in Perth, introduced by Richie Benaud.

12.45 **Weather.**

ITV/LONDON

7.00 **TV-am: Wide Awake Club Special** presented by Tommy Boyd, Timmy Mallett, and Michael Strachan, includes a review of the highlights of the programme's year.

9.25 **BMX Beat International.** The Cherry Coca Cola Freestyle Championships introduced by Gaz Top and Andy Ruffell from the Sands Centre, Carlisle **9.50 The Talking Parcel.** An animated adventure story, *adapted by Rosemary Anne* Sisson from the book by Gerald Durrell. (r)

10.30 **Film: Roar** (1981) starring Noel Marshall, Tippi Hedren, John Marshall, and Jerry Marshall. Adventure drama about a pair of mercenary game hunters, bent on revenge after being mauled by tigers when inspecting a game ranch. They decide to get even with the owner by poaching his animals. Directed by Noel Marshall.

12.00 **Gymnastics '86.** Nick Owen *introduces highlights of the* year's competitions including the World Cup in Peking. The commentators are John Taylor and Monica Phelps.

1.00 **News** *with Anne Leuchars* **1.05 Mickey's Birthday Party.** Cartoon.

1.15 **Film: Star Wars** (1971) starring Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, and Carrie Fisher. Splendid science fiction fantasy revolving round the battle between the forces of good and evil. Directed by George Lucas. (Oracle)

3.30 **The Princess and the Children.** Peter Williams reports on the work of the Save the Children Fund, and the part played by the Fund's *president, Princess Anne.* Although the Princess's trips overseas are well covered, Williams examines her less publicized work in the United *Kingdom, with visits to* Birmingham, London, Buckinghamshire, and Northern Ireland.

4.30 **Blockbusters.** General knowledge game for teenagers, presented by Bob Holness.

5.00 **News and sport.**

5.15 **Film: The Love Bug** (1969) starring Dean Jones, Michelle Lee, David Tomlinson, and Buddy Hackett. Comedy story about Herbie, a Volkswagen Beetle with a mind of its own. It also has aspirations to play the role of Cupid in the love affair *between Carole and Jim, the* latter a failed racing driver until Herbie arrives on the scene. Directed by Robert Stevenson. (Oracle)

7.15 **Strike It Lucky.** Quiz game show using up-to-date technology. Presented by Michael Barrymore.

7.45 **Film: Jaws 3** (1983) starring Dennis Quaid and Bess Armstrong. Another dose of sub-aquatic terror as a great white shark menaces the opening of the Undersea Kingdom, one of the new *attractions of Sea World, a* Florida theme park. As the opening festivities begin, the shark enters the lagoon and attacks a maintenance man. *Directed by Joe Alves.*

9.35 **News** with Anne Leuchars.

9.50 **Minder on the Orient Express.** Arthur joins the smart set when he gains possession of one of *Terry's two tickets for the* luxury train journey. Once on board Arthur tries to impress his fellow passengers, with a singular lack of success, not least Mr Chisholm who has been seconded to Interpol and is on the trail of a villain. Starring George Cole, Dennis Waterman, and Patrick Malahide. (r)

11.50 **Film: Mommie Dearest** (1981) starring Faye Dunaway. A dramatization of Christina Crawford's book about her adopted and abused life with her mother, film star Joan. Directed by Frank Perry.

2.10 **Night Thoughts.**

Steam enthusiast Anthony Burton at the Great Working of Steam Engines Festival (Channel 4, 3.45pm)

CHANNEL 4

11.00 **Sumo Wrestling.** Highlights from the third and final day of the Grand Sumo Tournament held in Paris in October.

12.05 **Film: Mon Oncle** (1956) starring Jacques Tati as the permanently bemused M Hulot in this adventure wreaking havoc in the *high-tech* home of his sister and brother-in-law. Directed by Jacques Tati.

2.00 **Film: The Secret Garden** (1949) starring Margaret O'Brien, Herbert Marshall, Dean Stockwell, and Gladys Cooper. A fantasy drama, filmed partly in black and white, about a 10-year-old orphan who goes to live with her widower uncle at his Yorkshire home and discovers a secret garden. With Elsa Lanchester and Dean Stockwell. Directed by Fred M Wilcox.

3.45 **Great Dorset Steam.** Anthony Burton enthusiastically joins the 100,000 strong throng who travel to Stourpaine, near *Blandford Forum,* to ooh and aah at the some 2,000 cast iron exhibits that belch smoke and fumes over the gentle countryside.

4.30 **American Football.** The Kansasa City Chiefs at the New York Jets; and the Los Angeles Rams at the Washington Redskins.

6.30 **Hannibal's Footsteps.** Bernard Levin concludes his four-part retracing of Hannibal's route across the Alps from Southern France. (r)(Oracle)

7.00 **News summary and weather** *followed by* **A Count of Flowers.** Roy Lancaster soaks up the January sun at La Mortola, an exotic 112 acre garden on the Italian Riviera between Menton in France and Ventimiglia, which boasts more than 220 garden plants in full flower. (Oracle)

8.00 **Loose Tubes.** The three-year old, 21-piece jazz orchestra in concert at the Royal Northern College of Music Opera Theatre.

9.30 **Film: The Stunt Man** (1980) starring Peter O'Toole. A black comedy thriller about a megalomaniac film director who hires a fugitive from the police as a stunt man after he has accidentally caused the death of his *predecessor. As* the filming progresses the director makes the stunt man take ever more dangerous risks, and the man himself falls *for the leading lady.* Directed by Richard Rush.

11.55 **Lightning - Act of God.** Peter Greenaway's film of the phenomenon includes more than 20 *victims giving details of* the bizarre experience of being struck by lightning. (r)

12.20 **Film: And Now For Something Completely Different** (1971) A *compilation of clips from the* Monty Python's Flying Circus television series. Directed by Ian Macnaughton. Ends at 2.00.

VARIATIONS

BBC1 WALES 10.50am-1.15pm Film: Mary Poppins 2.30-2.45 Barney Bear Double Bill 2.45-4.45 New Year Holiday *Rugby: Cardiff v Bath* 1.15am-1.20 News and weather. SCOTLAND 9.45pm-10.15 Sportscene 10.15-12.00 Film: Local Hero 12.00-12.05am Weather. NORTHERN IRELAND 1.15am-1.20 News and weather.

ANGLIA As London except: 2.05am Dear Diary, followed by Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 11.50 Eric Clapton Live 12.45am Weather, Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 11.50pm Film: Breakdance (Lucinda Dickey) 1.25am Jobfinder 2.25 Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 11.50pm Film: Deadfall 2.00am Weather and Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 1.15pm Good News for Ne'er Day 1.30 Indiana Jones: Heroes and Side Kicks 2.30-3.30 Scotsport Review of the year. With Arthur Montford, Sally McNair and Ian Archer 11.50 Film: Breakdance 1.25am Reflections 1.30 Closedown.

GRANADA 11.50pm Film: Deadfall (Michael Caine) 2.00am Closedown.

HTV WEST As London.

Django Bates: Loose Tubes, on Channel 4, 8.00pm

SCOTTISH As London except: 12.00-1.00pm Glen Michael's Christmas Cavalcade 1.15 Good News for Ne'erday 1.30 Auld Lang Syne 2.30-3.30 Scotsport Review of the Year 11.50 Film: Breakdance (Lucinda Dickey) 1.25am Late Call 1.30 Closedown.

TSW As London except: 11.50pm Eric Clapton Live 12.45am Postscript 12.51 Closedown.

TVS As London except: 11.50pm Film: Deadfall (Michael Caine) 2.00 Company *followed by Closedown.*

TYNE TEES As London except: 11.50pm Eric Clapton — Live 12.50am Keys for the New year 1.00 Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 11.50pm Elvis *Memories.* Life and music of Elvis Presley 12.45am News at Bedtime. Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 11.50pm Eric Clapton Live 12.45am Music Box — Timmy Mallett 1.00 Amanda Redington Show 2.00 Nino Show 3.00 *Martin Buchenan Show* 4.00 Simon Potter 5.00 The Shadow 6.00 Closedown.

S4C Starts: 11.00am Sumo Wrestling 12.00 Film: The Black Swan* (Tyrone Power) 1.30 Film: The Son of the Sheik * (Rudolph Valentino) 2.40 Pisiabalam 2.55 *Rygbi: Caerdydd v Caerfaddon* 4.30 American Football 6.25 HafoCalan 7.00 Newyddion Sarth 7.10 Daniel Turner, Yntel 7.40 Ar Y Creigiau 8.20 Dinas 8.50 Jarman Yn Y Majestic 9.40 Film: New York! New York! (Liza Minelli, Robert De Niro) 12.40am Closedown.

Watch ITV's documentary about Save the Children this afternoon

When you think of Save the Children, you probably think about the Fund's work abroad. Watch ITV today at 3.30pm and you'll see how SCF helps the UK's poorest children, too.

Last year, for instance, your donations helped a little girl have her first-ever family holiday. You paid for children to go swimming – a rare treat when parents are unemployed. You helped the Fund run more than 50 centres for children throughout the UK.

In this afternoon's documentary, made independently by TVS, we think their cameras have captured the spirit of just some of the Fund's projects – in Birmingham, London, Belfast and Buckinghamshire. You'll see how SCF works with families. You'll see dozens of happy children. And you'll see why SCF's UK projects cost £5.6 million last year.

The programme explains why children all over the UK are relying on Save the Children in 1987. Please watch it.

Save the Children

Save the Children Fund, Dept. no. 7121200, FREEPOST, London SE5 8BR.

Radio 1

5.30am Adrian John **7.00** Mike Smith's Breakfast Show **10.00** Simon Bate's Solid Gold **12.55pm** Newsbeat (Alison MacKenzie) **1.00pm** Bruno Brookes — Compact Disc Jockey **4.00** Rod Stewart in Concert (at Wembley Stadium) **5.30** Newsbeat (Alison MacKenzie **5.35** Rock Brain of the Universe **6.30** Janice Long **9.00** You'll Never be 16 Again **10.00-12.00** Andy Kershaw.

Radio 2

MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF News on the hour (except 4.00pm, 5.00). Cricket: Benson and *Hedges Challenge. Australia v* England. Reports from Perth at 6.02am, 7.02, 8.05, 9.05, 10.02, 11.02, 12.02pm

4.00am Colin Berry **6.00** Martin Stanford **8.05** Teddy Johnson **10.00** Paul Nicholas **11.00** Angela Rippon **1.00pm** David Jacobs **3.00** New Year's Day Sport. Football: Extensive coverage from around the country. Cricket: Benson and Hedges challenge. Also yachting news from Fremantle, results from today's Rugby League, Rugby Union and Racing **5.30** John Dunn **7.00** Wally Whyton **9.00** Rhythm and Blues (Paul Jones) **10.00** Radio Active **10.30** Star Sound Cinema (film magazine presented by Nick Jackson) **11.00** Brian Matthew **1.00am** Charles Nove **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk (until 6.30) **7.00** News **7.09** Twenty-Four Hours **7.30** Sing Gospel **7.45** *Have You Ever Seen An Otter?* **8.00** News **8.09** Reflections **8.15** Country Style **9.00** News **9.09** Review of the British Press **9.15** World Today **9.30** Financial World **9.45** Body Talk **10.00** News **10.01** Bing and Friends **10.30** Two Cheers for 1986 **11.00** News **11.09** News About Britain **11.15** New Ideas **11.25** A Letter from England (until 11.30) **12.00** Radio Newsreel **12.15** Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** News **1.09** Twenty-Four Hours **1.30** Have You Ever Seen an Otter? **1.45** Patrick Martyn's Music Box **2.00** News **2.01** Outlook **2.45** Nashville Cats **3.00** Radio Newsreel **3.15** The Pleasure's Yours **4.00** News **4.09** Commentary **4.15** Sportsworld **5.00** News **5.09** A Letter from England (until 5.15) **8.00** News **8.09** Twenty-Four Hours **8.30** Business Matters **9.00** News **9.01** Book Choice **9.05** In the Meantime **9.15** A Jolly Good Show **10.00** News **10.09** Dear Fred, Dear Moor **10.25** A Letter From England **10.30** Financial World **10.40** Reflections **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.15** *Merchant navy Programme* **11.30** Masterpiece in Miniature **11.40** Farming World **12.00** World News **12.09** News About Britain **12.15** Radio Newsreel **12.30** Music Now **1.00** News **1.01** Outlook **1.45** Book Choice **1.50** In The Meantime **2.00** News *2.09 Review of the British Press* **2.15** Hard Knocks **2.30** After Berlioz **3.00** News **3.09** News About Britain **3.15** Dear Fred, Dear Moor **3.30** Business Matters **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Country Style (until 4.45) **5.45** Dear Fred, Dear Moor. All times in GMT.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News

7.05 Morning Concert:Haydn (Divertissement in G, H IV7: Isaac Stern, violin : Rampal, flute and Rostropovich, cello), Liszt (Transcendental Study. *Book 1 No 5; Feux follets:* Bolet, piano), Suk (Four pieces Op 17: Josef Suk, violin and Jan Panenka, piano), Schumann (Konzertstuck in F, Op *86: Dale Clevenger,* Richard Oldbert and Norman Shchwiekert, horns and Chicago SO). 8.00 News

8.05 Concert (continued) Telemann (Concerto in B flat for three oboes, violins and bass: Ars Rediviva Ensemble), Elgar (Piano Quintet in A minor: Allegri Quartet with John Ogdon, piano), Purcell (Sonata in D: John Wilbraham, trumpet and ECO). 9.00 News

9.05 This Week's Composers: Constant Lambert and Friends. Lambert (Eight *songs by Li-po:* Alexander Young, tenor and Argo Chamber Ensemble), Warlock (Serenade: Constant Lambert String Orchestra), *van Dieren (Dream* pedlary: O Take those lips away: Pears, tenor), Lambert (Piano Concerto: Ian Brown/Nash Ensemble)

10.05 New Year's Day Concert: live from Musikverein, Vienna. Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra (under Herbert von Karajan--. Part one. Der *Zigeunerbaron overture* by Johann Strauss, son, and a selection of waltzes by the rest of the Strauss family

10.45 The Waltz: Patrick *Dickinson's compilation* is read by Andrew Branch, Manning Wilson and Rachel Gurney

11.15 Concert (continued): the second part of the concert from Vienna includes Voices of Spring. With Kathleen Battle (soprano). Also on BBC2

12.30 Flute and Guitar: Judith Hall and Timothy Walker. Bozza (Trois pieces), Villa-Lobos (Distribucao des flores), Correa (Desafio), Castelnuovo-Tedesco (Sonatine, Op 205). *1.00* News

1.05 Alessandro Scarlatti: London Handel Orchestra (under Denys *Darlow), with Gillian* Fischer (soprano). Cantatas and concertos, including *Cantata pastorale per la nativita del nostro* Signore Gesu Cristo

2.05 Haydn and Tippett: Alberni String Quartet. Haydn (Quartet in D, Op 71 No 2), Tippett (Quartet No 2)

2.50 Berlin Philharmonic (under Barenboim), with Horacio Gutierrez (piano). *Beethoven (Piano* Concerto No 4), Beethoven (Symphony No 5)

4.25 Guitar music from Latin America. Jukka S[illegible]joki plays works by Brouwer, *Carlos Chavez, Lauro,* Landaeta and Carlevaro. 4.55 News

5.00 Interpretations on Record: Michael Kennedy compares *recordings of Strauss's* Ein Heldenleben

6.00 A Dinner Invitation: Lalande (Caprice No 2 in G minor: Paillard CO), Poulenc (Deux marches et un intermede: Paris Orchestra), Strauss (Le diner, Le bourgeois gentilhomme suite: Vienna PO and solo *instrumentalists)*

6.30 Portuguese Keyboard Music: Christopher Stembridge (organ) plays works by Pedro de Araujo, Gaspar dos Reis, *Seixas, Scarlatti, and* Frei Luis Coutinho

7.15 Die Fledermaus: Johann Strauss's opera in three acts. As performed last night in the Bavarian State Opera House, Munich, under Kleiber's baton. Also broadcast on BBC2. Cast includes Pamela Coburn, *Brigitte Fassbaender,* Janet Perry, Eberhard Waechter and Wolfgang Brendel. Bavarian State Orchestra and Chorus and Ballet of Bavarian State Opera.

10.00 Music in Our Time: two Luciana Berio works — Sinfonia, 1968-9 for eight *voices and orchestra,* and Eindrucke, 1973-4. New Swingle Singers and French National Orchestra, under Pierre Boulez

10.55 *Beethoven Piano* Sonatas: John Lill plays the No 10 in G Op 114 No 2, No 22 in F Op 54, and No 31 in A flat Op 110

11.57 News. 12.00

Radio 4

On long wave. (s) stereo on VHF

5.55 Shipping. 6.00 News Briefing; Weather.

6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Morning Praise (s). 6.56 Weather; Travel.

7.00 Today, incl. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.20 Business News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.30 News Summary. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 7.55 Weather.

8.30 Cat's Whiskers. *Programmes* for the Under 12s presented by Bernard Cribbins. 8.57 Weather; Travel.

9.00 News.

9.05 With Great Pleasure. *Russell Harty presents* a selection of his favourite prose and poetry. Read by Kenneth Branagh and Geraldine McEwan.(s)

9.50 No Laughing Matter. *Margaret Horsfield turns* a sympathetic ear to the tone deaf.

10.00 News; Farrell's Travels. Nigel Farrell goes in search of the more extraordinary side to everyday British life.

10.30 The Fosdyke Saga (s)

10.45 Wives of the Great Composers. Fritz Spiegl introduces Mrs Percy Grainger.

11.00 News; Travel; Persuasion, by Jane Austen, dramatized in three parts. Part 2 (r)

12.00 *News; Classic Features.* The Ballad of John Axon, tells the story of a railway worker and the tradition of railway service he stood for.

12.27 Masterbrain. Robert Robinson chairs a special invitation challenge match between past Brains of Britain. 12.55 Weather.

1.00 The World at One: News

1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping.

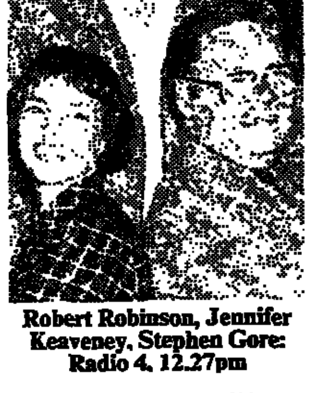
2.00 News; The Immortal *Bohemian. Evviva* Puccini. Second of two programmes about the composer Giacomo Puccini.

3.00 News; The Afternoon Play. Bequest to the Nation, by Terence Rattigan (s). Story of Nelson and Lady Hamilton. With Michael Bryant and Sian Phillips.

4.30 The Living World . . . Good Food Guide: Peter France with a guide to all things edible.

5.00 PM News Magazine.

5.30 Uncle Clarence. Alan



Robert Robinson, Jennifer Keaveney, Stephen Gore: Radio 4, 12.27pm

Bennett in search of his family's past. 5.50 Shipping. 5.55 Weather.

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.15 I've Been Together Now For 70 Years. Johnny Morris recalls his childhood in Wales.

6.30 Paul Temple and the Conrad Case. Part 8.

7.00 News.

7.05 The Archers.

7.20 Goin' Bamboo. On the Isles of Sanitation; continuing Alan Richard's account of life in Japan.

7.30 Murder for Christmas. Appleby's End, by Michael Innes. With John Hurt, John Le Mesurier and Joyce Redman in the cast. *(s)*

9.30 The Year Ahead. BBC News correspondents try to predict the main issues of the year ahead.

10.15 Ghost Story. Laura, by Robert Aickman. Reader: Joss Ackland. 10.29 Weather

10.30 The World Tonight

11.00 News; The Great Sea Monster Mystery. Is there really any monstrous life beneath the ocean waves?

12.00 News; Weather. 12.33 Shipping.

VHF (available in England and S Wales only) as above except: 5.55-6.00am Weather; Travel. 1.55-2.00pm Listening Corner (s).

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1:1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m: Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m: Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m:VHF-90-92.5. Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m: VHF-92-95; LBC:1152kHz/261m: VHF 97.3: Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF95.8: BBC Radio London: 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service: MF 648kHz/463m.

SPORT

A game profiting from fewer louts and bigger crowds

By Clive White

English football in 1987 is alive and well. It has made a remarkable recovery from the seemingly mortal blows dealt it by the tragedies of Brussels and Bradford in 1985. Half a million more spectators returned to the game in the first half of this season compared with the corresponding period for last season – the first increase in six years.

"Football is starting to be more fashionable again," Peter Robinson, the chief executive of Liverpool, said yesterday. "This was always going to be an exceedingly critical season for the game and people are coming to watch it and talk about it again. There is excitement throughout the divisions and though the fear of hooliganism is still in people's minds it is going away just a little."

Attendances were up in all four divisions except the second which showed a small drop. The biggest increase was in the fourth division where gates were up by 17.2 per cent.

Northampton Town, the surprising runaway leaders showed an increase of 156.18 per cent, the biggest of any club in the four divisions. The only striking anomaly are Portsmouth, the second division leaders, whose gates, curiously, are down by 28.88 per cent.

A better example of the encouragement reflected in the figures, which have been compiled specially for The Times, are Liverpool, the champions, who with similar success to last season, show an increase of 10.26 per cent. The most heart-warming example must be Bradford City, who suffered so cruelly in the fire at their Valley Parade ground. They show an increase of 28 per cent even though they were forced to play their first 10 league games at the Odsall Stadium.

Martin Edwards, the chairman of Manchester United, who command the League's greatest attendances, was particularly uplifted by the overall increase despite his own club's decrease, which is entirely due to their own poor form this season compared to last when they won their opening 10 league fixtures and averaged 51,000 a game. Also, this season two of their games have been televized. "We're not pessimistic," Edwards remarked.

Ted Croker on the bright future for football, page 28

Unquestionably one of the chief reasons for the general increase is that hooliganism is far less prevalent than it was, largely because it is being more effectively controlled by improved safety measures. Edwards conceded that closed circuit television, introduced at the behest of the Government, has played a major part in curbing the problem.

"Apart from the recent incident at Bradford there have been few problems with spectators inside the stadiums. It is largely restricted to railway stations and such places. There is discernibly less obscene chanting nowadays, too. Clubs have been financially more sensible for several years now and with gates up that is something to build on."

Robinson agreed that clubs were living more within their means - "many came to their senses just in time" - but he added: "Many still have horrendous debts and I doubt whether in the long term we can sustain a 92-club situtation without smaller clubs going part-time." He stressed the importance to bigger clubs of England's readmission to European competition.

Graham Taylor, the Watford manger, was particuarly concerned about the future of the game at the start of the season and still has his doubts. "The biggest worry now is that too many people are offering advice, changes could be too drastic and they could be made by people who do not understand the pulse and the heart of the game. But at least people are starting to face up their responsibilities."

HOW THE GATES HAVE INCREASED

Percentage change in League attendances between this season (up to and including December 31, 1986) and last (after the same number of matches).

	1986-87	1985-86	%change
Div 1	4,852,874	4,572,861	+6.12
Div 2	2,060,859	2,136,944	-2.62
Div 3	1,045,364	1,024,823	+2.00
Div 4	761 449	649 696	+17.20
Total	8,740,546	8,384,324	+4.25

The greatest changes over same period for individual clubs have been:

Increase

Club	Games	% change
Northampton	12	+156 18
Plymouth	11	+143.52
Wimbledon	11	+142.91

Decrease

Club	Games	% change
Wigan	11	-25.62
Portsmouth	11	-28.88
Millwall	11	-30.17

The records for each of the first division clubs are as follows:

Club	Matches	1986-87	1985-86	% change
Arsenal	11	349,429	256,299	+36.33
A Villa	11	195,474	173,307	+12.79
Charlton	11	99,352	53,119	+87.04
Chelsea	11	172,707	258,685	-33.23
Coventry	11	150,788	131,220	+14.91
Everton	11	345,819	333,809	+ 6.29
Leicester	11	144,677	124,973	+15.76
Liverpool	11	395,026	358,278	+10.26
Luton	11	112,286	115,013	- 2.37
Man City	11	245,955	301,627	-18.46
Man Utd	11	434,074	540,709	-19.72
Newcastle	11	270,703	250,848	+ 7.91
Norwich	11	201,992	141,044	+43.21
Nottm F	11	215,716	179,780	+19.99
Oxford	11	113,214	116,375	- 2.72
QPR	11	158,991	163,188	- 2.57
Sheff Wed	11	279,391	267,102	+ 4.60
Sthampton	10	160,635	148,593	+ 8.10
Tottenham	11	289,238	258,599	+11.85
Watford	11	184,977	167,205	+10.63
West Ham	11	238,189	194,292	+22.59
Wimbledon	11	94,241	38,796	+142.91

Players accused

By Dennis Shaw

Footballers drink too much, stay out too late and lack dedication, according to Ron Saunders, the West Bromwich Albion manager. Saunders links excessive socialising among present-day players with a decline in standards.

His words come after his promotion-seeking second division team have dropped eight points out of nine and before today's home game with Crystal Palace. He said: "What we see today is the product of too many players drinking and staying out late too much. Without fitness and dedication great players could not be great."

The man with a reputation for fielding teams with supreme fitness added: "I reckon it takes at least two years to make players fully fit. They are starting to become reasonably fit and are starting to understand why they have to work so hard. There are no problems with most of them."

Martyn Bennett, the club captain, said: "The way our gaffer makes us train you could not go out boozing every night and stay on your feet next day. Footballers are invited to a lot of functions, but those who overdo it would soon to be found out."

Everton's winning formula

By Clive White

If **Everton** win the title they will no doubt disprove the theory that championship-winning sides make few changes. Everton have used 20 players already this season and have still to introduce Bracewell and Van den Hauwe.

What an Evertonian victory in this season's championship would prove was that without a strong squad you do not have a chance. Most first division clubs would have been fighting rearguard action by now, never mind contemplating the leadership of the first division in the next few games.

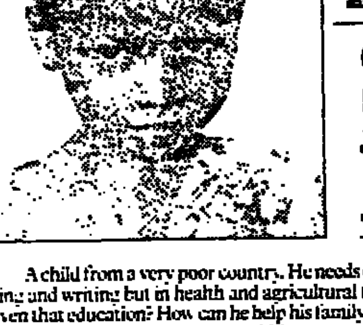
Today's game against Aston Villa at Goodison Park provides a rare moment of comparative well-being in Everton's injury-ravaged season. The words must have been foreign to Howard Kendall's lips when he announced yesterday, "we will be unchanged."

That is not to say they are all in the pink of condition. Reid's return being delayed by a recurrence of thigh trouble and Sharp is still suspended. But there is a semblance of continuity in the Everton teamsheet these days.

Twelve goals in three successive wins have elevated Everton to the position of favourites. The decision of Billy McNeill, the Villa manager, not to give Cooper, the summer signing from Aberdeen, his debut after injury was a mark of his respect for the opposition. Only Liverpool and Arsenal have won at Goodison this season. However, McNeill is prepared to risk the brittle Gray in his first match there since inspiring Everton to their last championship.

Nottingham Forest are unchanged, too, at home to **Liverpool.** Johnston may play for the champions for the first time since injuring his back nine games ago. Nicol is still injured. **Norwich City** are another side recovering from extensive injuries. Last month nine of their senior players were immobilised, but today, against **Sheffield Wednesday** at Hillsborough, they will be unchanged for the fifth consecutive match.

Leicester City, however, are so riddled with injuries that they have had to include three teenagers in a small squad for their visit to Upton Park where **West Ham United** will be expected to stop the rot which has seen them slide swiftly from a place in the top six to 12th.



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Jumping into the unknown: Edwards in practice before the fall which put him in hospital

CRICKET

Practice in the dark throws some light on England's task

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Perth

England prepared for their match in the Benson and Hedges Challenge, against Australia today, by delaying their practice yesterday until the evening, so that they could become acquainted with the floodlights. Of their three qualifying games, today's and next Monday's against Pakistan are day-night affairs. The other, against West Indies on Saturday, starts at 11 a.m. and finishes in daylight.

The new lights at the "Wacker" (the "trade name" of the West Australian Cricket Association) are reckoned by the professional photographers to be 10 per cent better than Melbourne's and 20 per cent better than Sydney's, both in terms of brightness and because they throw a more even light across the ground.

The lights on the Sydney Cricket Ground are not, in fact, quite as effective as when they were first used in 1978. Complaints from within the neighbourhood that night was being turned into day led to the ground authorities being ordered to remove the top bank of bulbs, which meant a considerable reduction in voltage.

Early in 1985, Channel Nine complained that the quality of the Sydney lights had been further diminished by an ageing of the bulbs and dirt or dust on the glass protecting them (as happens with car headlights). What chance do the players have, they asked, if the cameramen are having problems? But the lights on all three of these grounds – Sydney, Melbourne and Perth – put those at Wembley, for example, in the shade.

The lights here, powerful as they are, inevitably bear no comparison with the natural light of a normal summer's day in Perth. The light yesterday morning, when there was not a cloud to be seen, would have given a meter reading some 30 per cent brighter than the lights at the cricket ground on Tuesday night: not necessarily 30 per cent better for cricket, because the eye can make adjustments, but still that much brighter.

It was thought on Tuesday that after the dew had come down, by when the West Indians had begun their innings, the ball moved about more off the pitch. The West Indian batsmen said it also swung more than it had done earlier, though that may have been because Jaffar and Wasim, being left-armers, would swing the ball more than Walsh, Gray and Benjamin anyway.

Richards had put Pakistan in, preferring as a rule to field, as Clive Lloyd did, in these one-day games. Today and tomorrow he will be keeping an eye open to see whether the ball does, in fact, seem to move about more in the late evening. If so, Richards will not be the only captain to decide in future to bat first.

West Indies are likely to have the services of Marshall and Garner for their next match against England. Both missed Tuesday's game through injury: Marshall was wanting to give a knee a couple more days' rest and Garner had come a cropper at practice on Monday through not being properly shod.

Pakistan's victory on Tuesday was their second in succession over West Indies in Australia. In the semi-final of the "World Championship of Cricket" at Melbourne in March 1985, they beat them by seven wickets. Then, too, Mudassar proved effective, taking five for 28 with his little outswingers, bowled at a disarming pace.

AUSTRALIA (probable): G R Marsh, D C Boon, D M J Jones, A R Border (captain), S R Waugh, G R J Matthews, S P O'Donnell, K H MacLeay, T J Zoehrer, B A Reid, S P Davis.

ENGLAND (probable): B C Broad, C W J Athey, M W Gatting (captain), A J Lamb, D I Gower, I T Botham, C J Richards, P A J DeFreitas, J E Emburey, G R Dilley, G C Small.

Botham paperwork ready

From John Woodcock

If, as now seems certain, Ian Botham plays for Worcestershire next summer, he may have to wait until the middle of July before having an emotive crack at his old county of Somerset. That is when the two sides meet in the championship for the first time, the match being at Taunton.

It could happen earlier but only if they should both reach the knock-out stages of the Benson and Hedges Cup and be drawn against each other.

The four leading characters in Somerset's Greek tragedy – Roebuck, Botham, Richards and Garner – are all here in Perth. Although they will be moving in the same small world, Roebuck, while not going out of his way to avoid the other three, is unlikely to go looking for them. He has had no meaningful dialogue with Botham since arriving in Brisbane just before the first Test match seven weeks ago.

Mr M. G. Jones, the chairman of the Worcestershire cricket committee, is also in Perth, but not, as I understand it, with a contract waiting only for Botham's signature. Although counties have to wait until January 1 before approaching players from other counties, I gather all necessary paperwork between Somerset and Worcestershire is already complete.

All that remains to be agreed are the terms upon which Botham goes to Worcester and the Worcestershire chairman, Duncan Fearnley, rather than Mr Jones, will negotiate these with Botham's agent.

● Derbyshire are to press ahead with attempts to persuade Botham to join them next season despite the reports that he is almost certain to sign for Worcestershire (a Special Correspondent writes). Bob Taylor, a former England colleague of Botham's, has been given the job of contacting the all-rounder in Perth during the next 24 hours.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Punch ends in a ban

The Spanish international second-row forward, Andrés Perea, accused of knocking a referee unconscious with a punch after being sent off for hitting an opponent, was banned yesterday for four years by the Spanish Rugby Federation. The incident took place during a first division match between Perea's side, CAU de Madrid, and CEU Repsol on December 21.

The referee, Adolfo Monserrat, who lay unconscious for 15 minutes, plans to take legal action against Perea.

Cup exit

The Football Association have suspended Archie Stephens, of Middlesbrough, for two matches because he has reached 21 disciplinary points. Stephens will miss an FA Cup third round tie against Preston North End and a third division match against Wigan Athletic.

Lloyd: leg injury

Lloyd absent

Chris Lloyd will not compete in the Australian Open tennis championships, which will begin on January 12. The tournament director, Colin Stubs, said yesterday that the American had a leg injury. Mrs Lloyd, who lost to Martina Navratilova in the 1986 Australian final, had not officially entered the tournament but it was believed that she would take part.

£1,350 ball

The last ball Greg Norman used on his way to becoming the first golfer to surpass $1 million in earnings in a year fetched $2,000 (about £1,350) at an auction yesterday. In addition to buying the ball, Howard Kaskel, the owner of a chain of hotels, won the right to play a round of golf with Norman.

Dilley chase

Kent County Cricket Club have confirmed that Northamptonshire are the fourth county, after Somerset, Lancashire and Somerset, to state in writing they intend to speak to Graham Dilley about his future. Dilley's contract with Kent expired yesterday and he is considering a new one they have offered him.

Top entrants

Alison Higson, Jane Kerr and Kirsten Linnehan, Canadians who won gold medals at the Commonwealth Games, are among the entrants for the Leicester short-course swimming meeting, from January 23 to 25.

Edwards: swollen knee

Edwards crashes to earth

Eddie Edwards, the Cheltenham plasterer trying to break into international ski jumping, crashed in practice yesterday and is likely to miss the World Cup at Garmisch-Partenkirchen, West Germany, today.

He twisted a knee in a heavy fall on his first practice jump and although an X-ray revealed no serious damage the knee later became swollen.

Ron Pickering, the BBC commentator, said last night: "Eddie left hospital feeling fit enough to jump, and swam in the hotel pool. But then he went for a sauna and the knee began to hurt and he almost certainly won't jump here.

"However, he's looking forward to travelling to Innsbruck for the World Cup tomorrow. He's had some consolation: the East Germans presented him with a ski-suit to replace his patched-up one."

Edwards, aged 22, has become a popular figure on the European circuit, because of his novelty value (he is the first Briton to take part in the World Cup), his begged-and-borrowed clothing and equipment, and his happy acceptance of not being among the very best. He finished 110th and last in his World Cup debut at Oberstdorf this week, with a jump of about 65 m, compared with the winner's two leaps of 106.5m. Nevertheless, Edwards' jump is the best recorded by a Briton.

Andreas Bauer, of West Germany, was best in practice at Garmisch yesterday. He twice leapt 105 m. Vegard Opaas, of Norway, registered 105 m and 89 m.

RUGBY UNION

Bishop hopes WRU will be sympathetic

David Bishop, the Pontypool and Wales scrum half who is suspended until the start of next season, could be back in action earlier than expected.

The Welsh Rugby Union is understood to be considering an appeal from Bishop, who was banned in October for 11 months after admitting in court that he assaulted Chris Jarman, the lock forward, during a match against Newbridge. He then appealed successfully to have his four-week prison sentence suspended.

It is likely that an announcement on the outcome of the appeal to the WRU is possible next week, the day after the regular monthly meeting of the general committee. Bishop was set to take the WRU to court as a result of the ban.

The WRU have offered Bishop the chance to have his case reviewed. There now seems a possibility that the rest of his suspension will be lifted with a stern warning as to his future conduct.

The WRU headquarters in Cardiff yesterday were closed and the office staff of Bernard de Maid, Bishop's solicitor, also turned away inquiries.

The man left out in the cold

By John Goodbody
Sports News Correspondent

While Steve Redgrave received an MBE in the New Year's Honours List published yesterday for his services to rowing, Andy Holmes, his partner in victories at the Olympic and Commonwealth Games and the world championships, went unrecognized.

The rowing world was bewildered by the omission, and even those privy to the way these things are decided were at a loss to explain it. It seems the Prime Minister's Office was responsible for the curious decision because it knows little about sport.

David Lunn-Rockliffe, executive secretary of the Amateur Rowing Association, said yesterday: "We are delighted that Steve Redgrave has been honoured. We are extremely sorry and surprised that Andy Holmes was not linked with him and we hope that he will be duly recognized by his performances in the future."

What must have swayed the Prime Minister's Office is that Redgrave won three gold medals at the Commonwealth Games in Scotland, while Holmes took two, both in boats with Redgrave. Yet, as anyone in rowing knows, the standard of the regatta at a Commonwealth Games is nowhere near that of the Olympics or world championships.

In status, the Commonwealth Games regatta at Strathclyde is probably closer to Henley, where Holmes has had a part in eight victories to Redgrave's seven.

An inseparable partnership

For Redgrave to get an honour and for Holmes to get nothing, on the basis of a gold medal in the single sculls at Strathclyde, is absurd.

Redgrave and Holmes are inseparable. They were members of the same crews which have given British rowing such an impact in recent years, particularly in their victories in the coxed four at the 1984 Olympics, and then together in the coxed pairs at the 1986 world championships and the coxless pairs at the Commonwealth Games.

Chris Baillieu and Mike Hart, who were world champions and Olympic silver medal winners, both received honours at the same time, in 1977, and rightly so.

It is impossible to equate performances in many fields for honours. How can you compare an Olympic gold medal in an individual sport, an outstanding series of performances in a team game, and a long, unselfish service as an administrator? You cannot.

How has this happened? The Prime Minister's Office, who will not discuss individual cases, considers many recommendations.

In sport, these can come directly from individual governing bodies. But this is extremely rare because the governing bodies, wishing to make as strong a case as possible, filter their recommendations through the Sports Council, the Central Council of Physical Recreation and the Department of the Environment, with the sports minister sometimes making his own additions.

Essentially a shared success

Individual sports bodies need all the backing they can get for recommendations, and any notable omissions, such as in this instance, would be queried by these bodies.

It is highly unlikely, as some conspiratorial minds might suggest, that the ARA deliberately left Holmes off its recommendations because he took off a sweat top at Henley in the middle of a race and also forgot to take off his cap at a victory ceremony.

The Prime Minister's Office, understandably having to make difficult choices and with only a few honours to be distributed, probably picked Redgrave because of the Commonwealth single sculls gold medal and also because he has attracted greater media coverage, and so was better known to it.

It is a pity the Prime Minister's Office did not realize how the major international success of Redgrave was essentially a shared success with the man who has always been alongside him, in long hours of training on lakes and rivers and in the weight training rooms, in the regattas from Lake Casitas in California to Lucerne.

Yesterday Steve Redgrave MBE was out all day. He had two rowing sessions on the Thames. With his friend and partner Andy Holmes, of course.